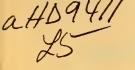
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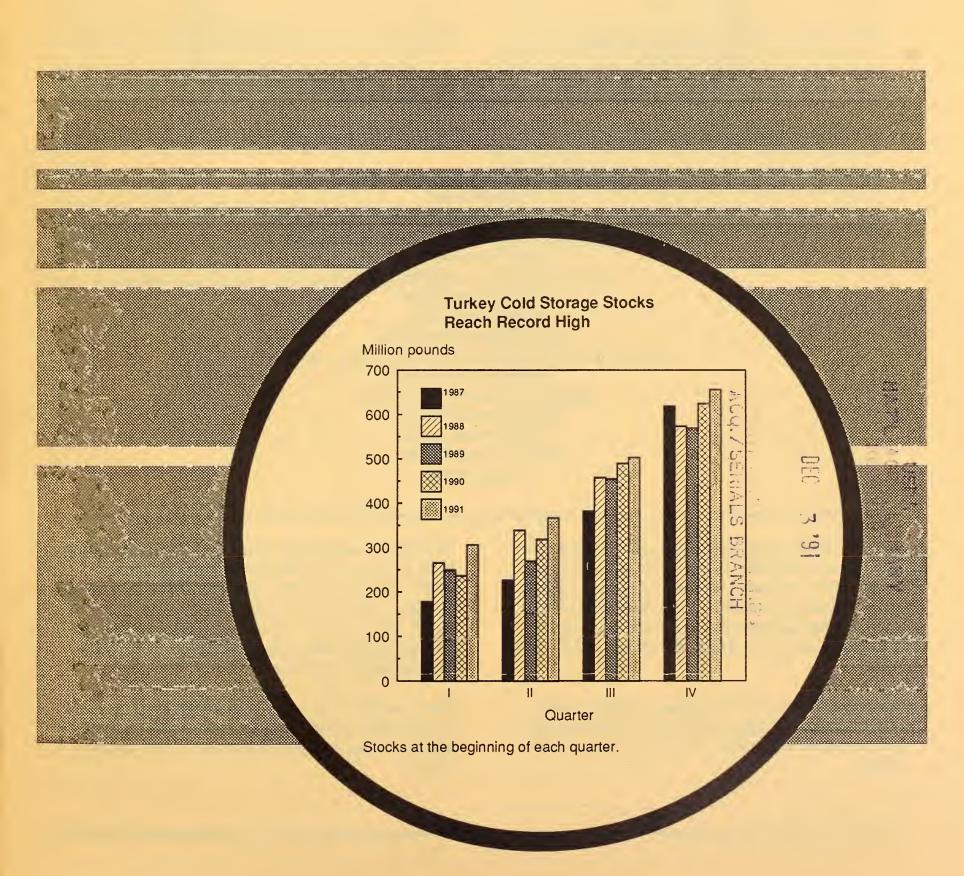


Economic Research Service

LPS-50 November 1991

Livestock and Poultry

Situation and Outlook Report



Livestock and Poultry Situation and Outlook. Commodity Economics Division, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, November 1991, LPS-50.

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Principal Contributors (202) 219-0767

Coordinator

Leland Southard

Leland Southard (Factors Affecting Livestock and Poultry)

Agnes Perez (Broilers)

Larry Witucki (Turkeys and Poultry Trade)

Lee Christensen (Eggs)

Felix Spinelli (Hogs)

Shayle Shagam (Pork Trade)

John Ginzel and Ron Gustafson (Cattle, Sheep and Lambs)

Linda Bailey (Beef Trade)

Statistical Assistants (202) 219-1284

Polly Cochran (Livestock)

Maxine Davis (Poultry)

Electronic Word Processing

Erma McCray

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Summary

Increased production of red meat and poultry and a weak economy are pressuring livestock and poultry prices. Consumers will find plentiful supplies of turkeys and hams at attractive prices for the holidays. Supplies of red meat and poultry have expanded in second-half 1991 and further increases are expected in 1992. Retail prices are already declining and are likely to decrease further in 1992, particularly for pork and poultry. Producers' returns are projected to decline as their prices fall and production costs remain about the same.

Fourth-quarter production is anticipated to be about the same as last year. But with record frozen stocks, total supply will also be record large, and retail prices are expected to be lower than a year ago. Turkey production is projected to increase about 3 percent in 1992, the same as in 1991. Wholesale hen prices will average around 60 cents per pound this year. In 1992, prices are expected to average 56-62 cents per pound.

Consumers will find hams more plentiful this holiday season than last and at lower prices. Fourth-quarter pork production is projected to be up 7 percent from a year earlier. Frozen ham stocks on September 30 were up 5 percent from a year ago. During the fourth quarter, wholesale ham prices (17-20 lbs.) have averaged nearly 25 percent below a year ago through mid-November. In 1992, commercial pork production is forecast to rise 8 percent from 1991 and 4 percent above the 1980 record. Barrow and gilt prices are expected to average \$39-\$45 per cwt.

Broiler production will rise about 6 percent this year and is forecast to increase 4 percent in 1992. Wholesale prices will average 50-52 cents per pound in 1991 and 46-52 cents in 1992.

Total egg production in 1992 is expected to increase about 1 percent, while table egg output is likely to be unchanged. Prices are expected to average 72-78 cents per dozen, compared with 77-79 cents this year.

Reduced producers' returns in 1992 will likely moderate expansion in the breeding hog inventory and will continue to temper poultry expansion. However, cattle producers are expected to moderately expand their herds as returns to cowcalf producers continue to be favorable. Per capita beef consumption in 1992 will be unchanged as production growth about equals population increase.

Table 1--Livestock, poultry, and egg production and prices (All percent changes shown are from a year earlier.)

Item	1989	1990			1991				1992 1/	
	Annual	Annual	I	ΙΙ	III	IV 1/	Annual 1/	I	II	Annual
					Million	pounds				
Production: Beef % change	22,974 -2	22,634 -1	5,383 -2	5,694 -1	6,012 3	5,775 4	22,864 1	5,450 1	5,900 4	2 3,175 1
Pork % change	15,759 1	15,300 -3	3,901 0	3,792 4	3,821 5	4,400 7	15,914 4	4,175 7	4,150 9	1 7, 150 8
Lamb & mutton % change	341 4	358 5	99 6	84 -6	84 0	89 -3	356 -1	95 -4	90 7	363 2
Veal % change	344 -11	316 -8	82 4	66 -8	68 -14	75 -13	291 -8	72 -12	62 -6	2 69 -8
Total red meat % change	39,418 -1	38,608 -2	9,465 -1	9,636 1	9,985 4	10,339 5	39,425 2	9,792 3	10,202	40,957 4
Broilers 2/ % change	17 , 334 8	18 , 554 7	4,692 4	5,004 7	5,091 10	4,970 4	19 ,75 7 6	4,910 5	5,200 4	20,540 4
Turkeys 2/ % change	4,175 6	4 ,561 9	1,021 4	1,160 5	1,243 2	1,255 0	4,679 3	1,055	1,180	4,800 3
Total poultry 3/ % change	22,039 7	23,635 7	5,837 4	6,296 7	6,460 8	6,340 3	24,932 5	6,090 4	6,515 3	2 5,845 4
otal red meat and poultry % change	61,457	62 , 243 1	15,302 1	15,932 3	16,445	16,679 4	64,357 3	15,882 4	16,717 5	66,802 4
					Million	dozen				
ggs % change	5,598 -3	5,660 1	1,418 2	1,416 0	1,437 2	1,462	5 ⁻ ,732 1	1,435 1	1,425 1	5, 770
rices Choice steers,					Dollars	per cwt				
Nebraska direct, 1100-1300 lb	73.86	78.56	80.09	77.92	69.15	70-74	74-76	72-78	73-79	73-79
Barrows and gilts, 7-markets	44.03	54.45	51.50	53.34	50.84	38-42	48-50	40-46	41-47	39-45
Slaughter lambs, Ch., San Angelo	67.32	55.54	49.44	56.32	54.35	48-52	52-54	48-54	53-59	49-55
					Cents p	per pound				
Broilers, 12-city avg. 4/	59.0	54.8	51.2	52.20	54.20	46-50	50-52	46-52	47-53	46-52
Turkeys, Eastern region 5/	66.7	63.2	56.1	61.80	64.20	56-60	59-61	49-55	55-61	56-62
					Cents p	er dozen				
Eggs New York 6/	81.9	82.2	85.9	70.20	77.10	75-7 9	77-79	72-78	69-75	72- 78

^{1/} Projected. 2/ Federally inspected. 3/ Includes broilers, turkeys, and mature chickens. 4/ Wholesale weighted average. 5/ Wholesale, 8- to 16-pound young hens. 6/ Cartoned, consumer Grade A large, sales to volume buyers.

Factors Affecting Livestock and Poultry

Large red meat and poultry supplies and a weak economy are pressuring livestock and poultry prices. In 1990, per capita income declined fractionally from 1989, but is expected to decline about 1 percent this year. In 1992, the recovering economy is expected to boost per capita income over 2 percent from this year.

Improvement in employment and gross national product with moderate inflation is the most likely scenario over the next few months. However, economic growth could be erratic. The real gross national product in 1991 is expected to be about the same as in 1990, but a 3- to 4-percent gain is expected in 1992 over 1991. However, the increase would be relatively small for a recovering economy.

The rate of inflation in 1991, as measured by the GNP deflator, is expected to be slightly lower than 1990's 4.1 percent. Prices of basic materials suggest little inflationary pressure. So the rate of inflation in 1992 is expected to be between 3 and 4 percent.

The relatively weak economy and modest inflation continue to put downward pressure on interest rates. The bank prime rate this year is expected to average around 8.5 percent, compared with 10 percent last year. In 1992, the prime rate is expected to average between 7 and 8 percent.

Feed costs are expected to be about the same in 1992 as in 1991. The 1991 corn crop is projected to be down 447 million bushels from 1990, causing a drop in carryover stocks. The September 1, 1992, carryover is projected at 1,284 million bushels, compared with 1,521 million this September. The farm corn price is expected to average \$2.15-\$2.55 per bushel in 1991/1992, compared with \$2.28 in 1990/1991.

Soybean production in 1991 is estimated at 1,962 million bushels, slightly higher than in 1990 and 1989. Thus, soybean meal prices (44 percent, Decatur) are expected to average \$165-\$185 per short ton in 1991/1992, about the same as in the 2 previous marketing years.

Large Supplies Depress Processing Meat Prices

Very large pork and poultry production in second-half 1991 has expanded availability of trimmings and processing meats. Because of expanded supplies of these meats, wholesale prices of trimmings and other processing meats have been under pressure. Pork trimmings prices have been depressed, particularly fatter pork trimmings--42 percent lean fresh pork trimmings in November were trading at \$16 to \$19 per cwt, compared with around \$40 a year ago. Because formulations of many sausage products allow substitution among trimmings materials, the lower price for pork trimmings give a strong incentive to expand their use.

Increasing amounts of turkey meat have been used for processing and in some formulations have displaced pork trimmings. The abundant supply of pork trimmings at attractive prices is expected to compete increasingly with processing turkey meats.

Further expansion in pork and turkey production in 1992 will continue to boost the already abundant supply of processing meats. The factor that will influence wholesale processing meat prices next year is growth in consumption or export of products using these meats. In the short term, freezer stocks for processing type meats will likely expand.

Lean processing beef, mostly from cows, bulls, and imports will be less directly affected by the lower priced pork trimmings and poultry processing meats. Much of the processing beef is already priced out of mixed formulations and is mostly used in hamburger and other beef-specific products.

Poultry and Eggs

Turkeys

Only Moderate Production Growth in 1991

Turkey production is estimated up only 2-3 percent in 1991. Production growth has slowed as the year progressed, rising less than 2 percent from a year earlier in the third quarter. Based on poult placements, fourth-quarter production is expected to be about unchanged from 1990. Growth in 1991 is the slowest since 1984's 1.3 percent. Producers have been cautious throughout 1991, following a very sharp drop in prices after last Thanksgiving, and continued general price weakness this year.

Table 2--Federally inspected turkey slaughter, 1990-1991

Quarters	Number	Average weight	Live- weight	Certified RTC
	Million	Pounds	Million	n pounds
1990: I II III IV Year	57.2 65.6 74.6 73.7 271.2	21.7 21.2 20.7 21.5 21.3	1,240.2 1,391.6 1,548.0 1,583.7 5,763.6	983.4 1,101.7 1,222.7 1,253.2 4,560.9
1991: I II III	59.9 69.0 75.7	21.6 21.2 20.8	1,293.8 1,464.4 1,571.9	1,020.7 1,160.5 1,242.8

Table 3--Turkey hatchery operations, 1989-1992 1/

Monti		Total ys placed	2/	Eggs i first	n incubat of month	ors, 3/
MONE		1990-91	1991-92	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
		Thousands			-Percent-	
Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug	19,924 20,171 20,734 21,542 25,179 24,609 27,699 28,787 29,124 29,276 29,000 25,281	19,743 21,517 21,871 22,777 25,902 25,348 25,754 28,796 29,762 28,157 28,814 25,605	21,128 22,089	27 25 14 14 11 6 5 6 6 6 2	0 0 6 2 1 0 -5 -5 -1 -6 -2	1 0 -1

1/ Breakdown by breed not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.

2/ Excludes exported poults.

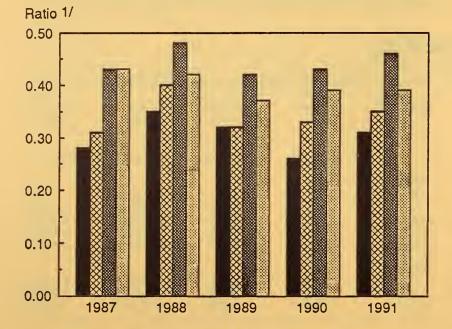
3/ Percent changes from previous year.

Slow Growth Expected in 1992

Production in 1992 is expected to increase only 2-3 percent. First-quarter production will likely grow about 3 percent from 1991 as the conditions affecting poult placement decisions did not deteriorate seriously until October. The outlook for later next year will be largely shaped by prices and product movement in the fourth quarter of 1991, including the extent that record stocks are reduced. Lower stocks would improve producers' expectations for 1992 net returns.

Lower turkey prices are expected in 1992. Continued increased supplies of red meats, especially pork, will make it difficult to generate much price strength, even though turkey production is expected to be up only moderately. A positive

Figure 1
Turkey Stocks-to-Use Ratio, by Quarter



1/ Beginning of quarter cold storage stocks divided by disappearance. factor in 1992 will be the expected growth in the economy, in contrast to 1991 when it declined.

Eastern region hens in the first quarter are expected to average 49-55 cents, compared with 56 cents per pound in 1991. For 1992 overall, Eastern region hens are expected to average 56-62 cents, compared with an estimated 59-61 cents in 1991.

Record Turkey Stocks

The turkey market is burdened by record stocks, especially of whole birds. Stocks-to-use ratios during 1991 were the highest since 1988, another year when increased pork supplies put pressure on turkey. Turkey stocks have been at record levels since the summer of 1990, and on September 30, 1991, reached 655 million pounds, 5 percent above last year's record. Whole birds were up 9 percent, while stocks of parts and processing meat were down 7 percent. The major factor behind the persistent stock buildup this year has been a slowdown in consumption growth.

Prices Dropped Well Below Last Year

Wholesale turkey prices fell sharply in October, dropping about 20 percent from last year. The large stock accumulation and slowing of consumption growth were the major factors behind the price break. While increasing in the first half, per capita consumption in the third quarter was the same as a year earlier. Relative prices of competing meats likely played a role in the slowdown. Lower prices for pork trimmings in particular, may have begun competing more sharply with turkey in the meat processing market.

Eastern region hens during fourth-quarter 1991 are expected to average 56-60 cents per pound, compared with 68.6 cents last year. This would be the lowest fourth-quarter average since 1981, when a supply surge also affected the market. For 1991 overall, the Eastern region hen price is expected to average around 60 cents, the lowest since 1987, when production jumped nearly 20 percent. The large stocks are expected to cause retail turkey prices during the fourth quarter to average lower than a year ago. Earlier this year, retail prices for frozen whole turkeys were above a year earlier.

Net Returns Worsen

Turkey producers are expected to lose nearly 2 cents per pound in 1991 due to lower turkey prices. These returns are even poorer than in 1990, when they averaged just slightly above breakeven--0.5 cents per pound. Slightly higher feed costs in the fourth quarter compounded the impact of lower prices, and returns are expected to average about 5-6 cents below breakeven, compared with slightly above breakeven a year earlier.

Net returns are expected to be very poor during 1992, reflecting lower turkey prices and feed costs about the same as in

Table 4--Turkey prices and price spreads

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Avg.
							Cents/l	b.					
Farm price 1/: 1989 1990 1991	35.5 35.4 33.9	38.4 33.7 34.4	40.3 36.4 37.6	42.0 36.6 36.7	43.6 38.3 38.9	43.8 38.7 39.7	41.2 39.1 40.0	40.8 40.2 40.7	36.4 40.3 40.2	38.2 42.5 38.9	40.7 42.3	39.3 36.9	40.0 38.3
New York, hens, 8-16 lb 2/: 1989 1990 1991	59.0 55.6 53.5	62.2 55.2 55.8	65.7 58.9 59.1	68.3 59.6 60.3	72.1 61.3 62.3	73.0 62.9 62.7	66.4 63.4 63.4	62.6 66.6 64.7	57.9 69.0 64.4	67.8 76.2 60.5	72.5 73.7	72.7 56.1	66.7 63.2
4 region average retail price, wholebirds: 1989 1990 1991	97.4 98.9 99.4	96.8 98.3 101.2	97.6 99.4 97.8	98.3 97.1 100.5	100.1 99.8 100.6	101.3 99.8 102.0	104.6 100.8 102.8	104.1 101.4 103.4	102.0 103.3 103.1	102.2 105.6	93.2 91.1	95.0 96.0	99.4 99.3
Price spreads, retail-to-consumer: 1989 1990	29.8 33.7	29.9 33.7	25.7 32.1	23.2	20.7	20.7	30.2 32.1	32.3 27.8	34.2 26.7	28.9 23.7	13.4 8.8	15.4 29.7	25.4 27.9
1991 Consumer price index 3/:	37.1	38.1	31.2	33.7	30.9	32.0	32.6	31.2	30.3				
1989 1990 1991	114.2 123.9 125.1	116.3 124.2 126.8	118.7 124.6 126.5	121.5 123.4 126.0	123.2 123.6 127.7	124.1 122.7 128.2	126.0 123.9 128.3	124.6 123.1 129.9	124.4 124.7 127.9	123.2 126.9	119.2 120.4	121.1 123.0	121.4 123.7

^{1/} Liveweight. 2/ Wholesale, ready-to-cook. 3/ Other poultry CPI.

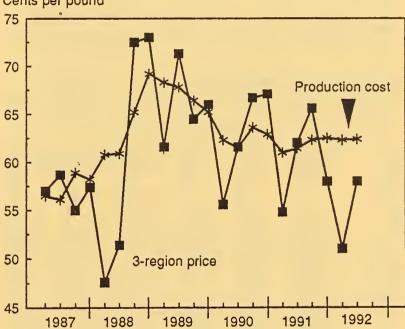
Table 5--Poultry and eggs costs and returns 1/

Table 3	Poultry a	and eggs	costs and it	etuiris i/	
	cost	ction ts	Wholes		Net
Year	Feed	Total	Total costs 2/	Price 3/	returns
1990:			Market egg (cents/do		
I II III IV Year	27.6 29.6 30.0 27.3 28.6	45.9 47.8 48.2 45.5 46.8	66.3 68.3 68.7 66.0 67.3	90.8 76.8 79.3 88.6 83.9	24.4 8.6 10.6 22.6 16.6
1991: I II III	27.8 28.8 28.3	45.6 47.0 46.5	66.5 67.5 67.0 Broiler: (cents/l		23.0 3.6 11.5
1990: I II III IV Year	15.7 15.8 16.8 15.8 16.0	23.7 23.8 24.8 23.8 24.0	46.0 46.1 47.4 46.1 46.4	56.5 56.6 57.2 48.8 54.7	10.5 10.5 9.7 2.6 8.3
1991: I II III	15.1 15.8 15.8	23.1 23.8 23.8	45.1 46.1 46.1 Turkeys (cents/l	51.3 52.2 54.2 b)	6.1 6.1 8.1
1990: I II III IV Year	23.1 22.5 24.2 23.6 23.4	36.8 36.2 37.9 37.3 37.1	62.3 61.5 63.6 62.9 62.6	55.6 61.6 66.7 67.1 63.2	-6.7 0.0 3.0 4.2 0.5
1991: I II III	22.0 22.4 23.1	35.7 36.1 36.8	61.0 61.4 62.3	54.9 62.0 65.6	-6.2 0.6 3.3

^{1/} Estimated costs and prices are weighted by monthly production. 2/ Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market value. 3/ Wholesale prices used are the 12-metro egg price, 12-city weighted average broiler price, and a weighted average of 8-16 lb young hens and 14-22 lb toms in Central, Western and Eastern Regions.

Figure 2
Turkey Production Costs and Prices

Cents per pound



Fourth-quarter 1991 and all of 1992 projected. Wholesale ready-to-cook basis.

1991. Substantially negative net returns are expected to continue through all or most of the first half. Second-half returns are expected to average close to breakeven as prices strengthen.

Challenging Fourth Quarter for Turkey

It will be very challenging to boost turkey consumption and reduce record turkey supplies this holiday season in light of the large supplies of competing meats. There will be increased supplies of pork available at lower prices than the fourth quarter last year.

Very attractive retail turkey features for Thanksgiving and the yearend holidays could achieve substantial increases in per capita turkey consumption, particularly given reports of heightened bargain hunting in the Nation's supermarkets.

Turkey consumption is expected to increase but not likely as much as last year. Fourth-quarter per capita consumption likely will be about 6.5 pounds, and for the year, about 19 pounds. Therefore, ending stocks this year will be little changed and probably not much lower than at the end of 1990.

The amount of turkey used during the fourth quarter is very important for the 1992 outlook. Assuming per capita consumption in the fourth quarter remains at last year's 6.4 pounds, then yearend stocks would reach about 325 million pounds--above last year's record 306. If consumption grows at 3 percent, matching last year, then per capita consumption would reach 6.6 pounds and ending stocks would fall below a year earlier, to about 280 million pounds. Ending stocks at this level would help the outlook for 1992 prices.

Production Leaders' Share Declines Slightly

The USDA preliminary estimate of turkeys raised during 1991, released during late August, at 287.5 million birds, is about 2 percent above 1990. Of the three leading States, North Carolina and Minnesota held about steady, but Califor-

Table 6	Turkeys	Number	raised,	total	of all br	eeds
States	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
			1,000 Bi	rds		
Mass. Mich. Minn. Mo. Nebr. N.H. N.J. N.Y.	7,000 150 125 145 2,700 34,200 13,500 1,437 26 100 3,43 39,100 3,100 3,100 7,800	25,500 3/ 3,432 698 13,000 8,500 133 140 3,000 40,500 15,500 1,942 115 448 48,350 1,240 3,400 1,830 8,000	18,000 26,500 2/,30 3,400 1,700 13,200 7,800 227 135 150 3,000 38,500 16,500 1,770 26 100 343 47,900 1,150 3,600 2/	19,800 30,200 2/ 30 3,280 13,200 7,600 324 100 150 3,500 43,100 17,300 2,050 26 100 400 52,200 1,280 4,100 2,100 8,400	22,000 31,500 2/30 3/2,010 4,460 13,700 8,800 110 4,300 46,300 18,000 2,090 100 480 58,000 1,320 4,750 2,300 8,430	22,500 30,000 2/ 30 3/ 1,860 2,750 14,800 8,700 250 115 140 4,700 46,000 21,000 2,080 1,320 5,400 5,400 2,300 8,500
S. Dak. Tex.	3,900 1,968 2/	3,950 2,376 2/	2,370 2,370 2/	5,360 2,220 2/	5,500 2,600 2/	5,500 2,700 2/
Utah Va. W. Va. Wisc. Oth.	3,390 14,307 2,220 6,128 12,500	3,731 16,200 2,400 5,450 13,316	3,900 16,300	3,590 16,600 2,870 2/	3,930 17,000 3,850 2/	4,100 18,200 3,950 2/
U.S.	207,232	240,438	242,421	261,280	282,450	287,500

^{1/ 1990} revised. 1991 preliminary based on turkeys placed September 1, 1990 through August 31, 1991. Excludes young turkeys lost. 2/ Combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations. 3/ Maryland and Delaware combined.

Table 7--U.S. turkey exports to major importers

Country or area	August	January-	August
	August	1990	1991
	Th	ousand pound	s
Mexico South Korea Japan Hong Kong Western Samoa Canada Jamaica Germany Saudi Arabia Micronesia Marshall Islands Venezuela United Kingdom Grenada Other	6,355 1,527 157 320 164 168 112 150 428 54 162 40 0 0	7,100 2,218 1,531 3,571 1,416 1,380 213 2,255 98 511 836 0 19 471 7,534	33,669 4,272 1,949 1,608 1,557 1,279 1,108 1,062 903 874 764 603 496 479
Grand total	10,050	29,153	54,842

nia's production declined. These States' combined share of 47 percent of birds raised in 1991 is down from 48 percent last year and in 1989. Production gains were above average in Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Virginia.

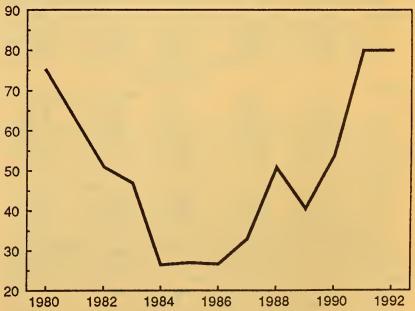
Record Turkey Exports

Turkey exports are expected to reach a record of about 80 million pounds in 1991, up about 50 percent from 1990, and represent about 2 percent of production. Through August, the average export unit value was running nearly 15 percent above last year and the total value of 1991 exports is expected to be up about 70 percent.

In 1992, exports are expected to continue at record levels. U.S. turkey meat exports are likely to remain competitively

Figure 3
U.S. Turkey Exports

Million pounds



1991 and 1992 projected.

priced. The demand for U.S. turkey also will be aided by the favorable economic outlook in a number of major markets. Finally, a continuation of some movement toward less import restrictions should help U.S. exports to remain strong in 1992.

In 1991, parts are making up about 87 percent of the exports, compared with 81 percent last year. The average export value of parts is 67 cents per pound, compared with 72 cents for whole turkeys. Brisk exports have helped domestic turkey parts prices, especially for dark meat parts. Domestic thigh meat prices are noticeably boosted by export sales.

Increased sales to Mexico account for most of the export growth this year. Exports to Mexico through August were four times last year's rate, and represented 60 percent of the total exports. Mexican production remains low due to poor returns while consumption is increasing as purchasing power rises. U.S. turkey parts, with an average unit export value of 63 cents to Mexico, are attractively priced and often compete with pork as processed product ingredient in the Mexican market.

Exports to South Korea are also strong, nearly double those of last year. Relatively high labor and land costs in South Korea, and small domestic production help explain the growth of U.S. turkey in this market. Also contributing is the liberalization of turkey imports beginning in 1989. Imported turkey is attractively priced for use in processed products, compared with relatively high-priced Korean pork.

Broilers

Over 6-Percent Growth Expected in 1991

Broiler production during 1991 is expected to increase slightly over 6 percent from a year ago to about 19.8 billion pounds, down from 1990's 7-percent growth. The largest year-over-year increases occurred in the spring and summer months.

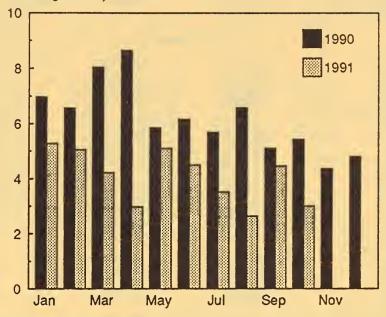
Broiler production continues to grow in the fourth quarter, but at a slower rate than last year. While average slaughter

Table 8--Federally inspected young chicken slaughter

Quarters	Number	Average weight	Live- weight	Certified RTC
	Million	Pounds	Millio	n pounds
1990: I II III IV Year	1,412 1,470 1,483 1,475 5,841	4.39 4.37 4.29 4.45 4.37	6,201 6,419 6,365 6,564 25,549	4,495 4,660 4,627 4,772 18,554
1991: I II III	1,462 1,560 1,614	4.43 4.41 4.34	6,472 6,881 7,001	4,692 5,004 5,091

Figure 4 Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched

% change from year earlier



October 1991 estimate.

weights were heavier in October, chicks hatched in August through October indicate growth of about 4 percent from a year ago, versus 8 percent in the fall of 1990. The expansion slowdown reflects mainly producers' responses to generally lower net returns through most of 1991. Weaker broiler prices in 1991 more than offset the impact of slightly lower feed costs through most of the year, pushing average net returns slightly below 1990.

Slower Production Growth in 1992

Broiler producers, influenced by lower prices and poorer net returns this year, are likely to slow expansion in 1992. Broiler production is forecast to increase around 4 percent to about 20.5 billion pounds. First-half production is expected to increase 4-5 percent from a year earlier, compared with about 6 percent this year. Smaller increases than a year earlier in the estimated size of the hatchery supply flock in late 1991 support this expectation. The cumulative broiler-type pullet placements to the hatchery supply continue to increase at a slower rate than a year ago through April 1992, indicating signs of an expansion slowdown during second-half 1992.

Broiler Prices Weaker in 1991

Large overall meat supplies and expected lower prices for red meats and turkeys will continue to pressure wholesale broiler prices, especially during the holidays as hams and turkeys become the featured items. Broiler prices have been declining from the September average of nearly 54 cents a pound, but fourth-quarter prices have received some support from slowing production growth and strong exports. Fourth-quarter broiler prices will likely decline seasonally from this summer's 54 cents to 46-50 cents. Last fall prices averaged

Table 9--Broilers: Eggs set and chicks placed weekly in 15 commercial states, 1990-91 1/

		Eggs set			Chicks placed	
Week ending 2/	1990	1991	Change from previous year	1990	1991	Change from previous year
	Thous	sa nd s	Percent	Thou	sands	Percent
January: 5 12 19 26	129,905 131,436 130,675 130,888	135,268 134,405 134,266 136,065	4.1 2.3 2.7 4.0	105,567 104,453 104,271 103,891	107,681 109,051 109,980 108,595	2.0 4.4 5.5 4.5
February: 2 9 16 23 March:	130,434 130,987 134,130 135,458	138,039 139,681 140,258 140,611	5.8 6.6 4.6 3.8	105,731 105,157 105,097 105,340	107,006 107,871 110,269 110,271	1.2 2.6 4.9 4.7
2	136,247	141,136	3.6	105,852	111,991	5.8
9	136,950	140,846	2.8	107,843	113,482	5.2
16	137,003	140,949	2.9	109,631	112,937	3.0
23	135,956	139,435	2.6	110,602	114,436	3.5
30	138,366	141,612	2.3	111,597	113,700	1.9
April: 6 13 20 27	139,546	142,839	2.4	111,031	113,274	2.0
	139,943	142,928	2.1	109,801	112,092	2.1
	140,070	144,111	2.9	111,160	114,888	3.4
	133,780	141,366	5.7	112,803	114,672	1.7
May: 4 11 18 25 June:	136,226 138,400 138,581 140,433	144,503 145,886 145,220 146,671	6.1 5.4 4.8 4.4	111,688 112,810 107,523 110,636	115,239 116,149 113,533 115,910	3.2 3.0 5.6 4.8
1	139,259	145,866	4.7	111,367	116,986	5.0
8	139,047	146,266	5.2	111,440	117,354	5.3
15	139,681	143,884	3.0	113,101	118,272	. 4.6
22	136,813	143,076	4.6	111,663	117,067	4.8
29	127,726	133,870	4.8	111,644	116,134	4.0
July: 6 13 20 27 August:	136,343	140,670	3.2	112,234	116,579	3.9
	136,490	141,087	3.4	110,100	114,124	3.7
	136,288	140,306	2.9	101,601	106,619	4.9
	135,330	140,478	3.8	109,268	111,889	2.4
3	135,599	138,458	2.1	108,926	111,743	2.6
10	135,251	139,561	3.2	108,884	112,448	3.3
17	137,294	138,846	1.1	108,301	111,771	3.2
24	136,075	139,438	2.5	108,863	110,616	1.6
31	131,514	139,290	5.9	108,395	110,346	1.8
September: 7 14 21 28 October:	126,939	135,647	6.9	109,611	109,797	0.2
	120,645	131,712	9.2	108,580	111,795	3.0
	126,666	129,328	2.1	104,197	110,603	6.1
	132,075	130,128	-1.5	100,410	107,107	6.7
12	130,123	136,835	5.2	95,496	104,157	9.1
19	127,575	133,628	4.7	100,453	102,053	1.6
26	115,247	121,773	5.7	106,254	103,500	-2.6
November:	119,713	127,730	6.7	104,347	108,376	3.9
2 9	130,912	135,125	3.2	101,636	105,970	4.3
	136,711	138,754	1.5	92,146	96,593	4.8

^{1/} The 15 states are: AL, AR, CA, DE, FL, GA, MD, MS, NC, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, and WV. 2/ Corresponding dates to 1991: 1990, January 6.

Table 10--Broiler chicks hatched and pullet chicks placed in hatchery supply flocks, 1989-1991

Month	Broi	ler-type ch	icks			Pul	let chicks	1/		
MOLICII				Month	ly placemer	nts		Cumulative	placements	2/
	1989	1990	1991	1989	1990	1991	1989	1990	1991	1992
					Thousar	nds				
January February March April May June July August September October November December	482,983 444,109 503,733 495,104 524,386 510,760 513,208 510,518 485,239 484,566 469,941 522,401	516,660 473,258 544,218 537,996 555,033 542,228 542,359 544,058 510,002 510,830 490,479 547,473	543,886 497,143 567,133 554,025 583,359 566,664 561,423 558,473 532,761	3,982 4,173 4,662 4,385 4,535 4,528 4,205 4,807 4,587 4,707 4,008 4,422	4,587 4,340 4,924 4,592 5,089 5,134 4,438 4,604 4,890 4,880 4,714 4,740	4,594 4,929 4,951 5,556 5,614 4,852 4,667 4,940 5,079	32,512 32,484 32,566 33,046 33,150 32,327 32,602 32,310 32,539 33,466 33,652 34,114	34,352 34,764 35,277 35,882 36,416 35,762 35,799 35,851 35,663 36,382 36,167 36,669	37,096 37,526 37,708 38,011 38,551 38,341 38,489 37,994 37,789 38,302 39,254 39,978	39,950 39,903 40,103 40,588

^{1/} Placed in broiler hatchery supply flocks.

2/ 7-14 months earlier.

almost 49 cents. For all of 1991, broiler prices will likely average about 51 cents, 3-4 cents below a year earlier.

Attractive retail specials for hams and turkeys this fall are expected to keep retail prices for whole broilers in the mid- to high 80's, and average slightly below a year earlier. For all of 1991, retail prices will likely average 87-89 cents a pound, 1-2 cents below a year ago.

Broiler Prices Slightly Lower in 1992

Increased total meat supplies and resulting lower red meat prices will likely pressure broiler prices during 1992. Whole-sale prices will likely average around 49 cents a pound for the year, slightly lower than 1991. Some support will come from the expected slower expansion and from continuing growth in exports. Broiler prices are expected to move up

slightly from their 1991 yearend holiday levels and average in the high 40's during first-quarter 1992, 2-3 cents below 1991. Second-quarter prices are likely to average in the low 50's, down 2-3 cents from this year.

Retail prices for whole broilers also are expected to move slightly below a year ago in 1992, and average in the mid-to high 80's. During the first half, retail prices will likely average in the high 80's, 1-2 cents below this year.

Lower Net Returns Next Year

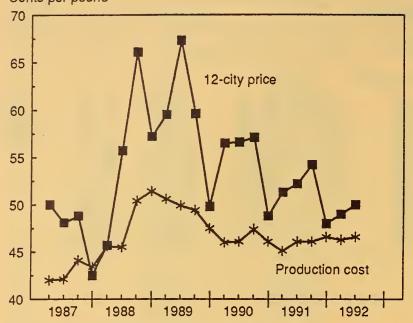
Lower broiler prices in 1992 will again be the major factor causing average net returns to decline 2-3 cents a pound from 1991, with some periods possibly below breakeven. Feed costs through most of next year are expected to remain about steady from 1991. However, any substantial increase

Table 11--Young chicken prices and price spreads

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Avg.
F						Cer	nts/lb.						
Farm price 1/: 1989 1990 1991 Wholesale RTC	34.6 30.0 30.9	34.7 33.2 29.9	38.6 35.7 30.6	39.1 32.7 30.4	44.6 35.0 31.3	42.2 34.1 31.4	38.7 36.3 32.6	35.7 32.6 32.3	36.1 34.0 32.1	30.2 28.4 31.1	29.4 27.9	28.0 28.8	36.0 32.4
12-city avg. 2/ 1989 1990 1991 U.S. avg.	58.0 51.7 51.7	58.0 57.4 50.6	62.1 60.4 51.4	63.5 55.3 52.0	70.4 57.9 52.0	67.4 56.4 52.7	62.0 59.5 54.3	57.3 54.9 54.6	59.9 57.4 53.6	51.7 48.8 51.6	49.2 48.0	48.4 49.6	59.0 54.8
retail price: 1989 1990 1991 Price spreads	90.5 88.2 88.6	89.9 89.6 90.3	91.3 92.8 89.9	93.2 89.7 88.5	96.1 90.2 88.3	98.2 92.8 87.8	96.4 91.7 88.8	95.4 91.2 86.9	94.2 90.7 87.4	91.0 88.3	87.9 88.0	88.3 85.8	92.7 89.9
retail-to-cons. 1989 1990 1991 Retail pr. index	27.3 30.5 31.5	28.6 27.0 33.6	24.9 29.0 33.7	29.4 29.4 31.5	20.2 26.5 30.7	25.1 30.5 29.2 1982-	27.7 24.9 28.8 -84 = 100	30.9 30.4 26.3	29.4 27.9 28.0	33.1 33.7	32.0 34.2	33.6 30.2	28.5 29.5
wh. chickens: 1989 1990 1991	133.7 131.5 131.1	133.2 133.6 134.1	135.6 138.4 133.4	138.0 134.9 131.7	142.9 134.8 132.8	144.7 138.2 130.6	141.7 137.6 133.6	140.8 136.7 130.6	139.1 136.3 130.6	134.9 133.8	130.4 132.9	130.4 130.6	137.1 134.9

^{1/} Liveweight. 2/ 12-city composite weighted average.

Figure 5
Broiler Production Costs and Prices
Cents per pound



Fourth-quarter 1991 and all of 1992 projected. Wholesale ready-to-cook basis.

in feed prices next year will intensify the impact of feed costs, and result in much lower net returns. First-quarter broiler prices, which are likely to drop 4- to 5-percent from this year, could reduce net returns a few cents below 1991. Second-quarter net returns will likely average slightly lower than in 1991 as well, given a 4- to 5-percent decline in broiler prices.

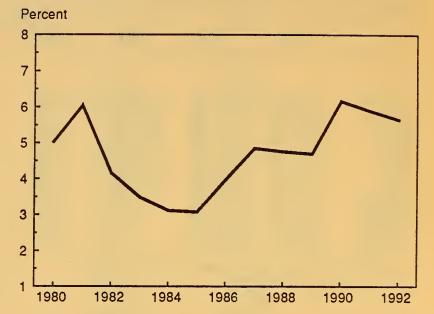
Record U.S. Broiler Exports in 1991

Record exports of about 1.15 billion pounds are expected this year, nearly 6 percent of production. While exports to the USSR will be down nearly 50 percent from a year ago, due mostly to credit limitations, exports are up in most other markets. When exports to the USSR are excluded, exports to all other markets through August were up 18 percent from a year earlier. Exports will likely increase about 20 percent to Japan and Hong Kong this year, making them the top markets. Consumption and total broiler imports continue to rise in these countries while their production declines. While total imports in these countries are larger, competition for market share is intense, and the United States will probably not be able to maintain its market share in Japan in 1991.

Exports to Mexico are expected to be up about 50 percent this year as consumption of relatively low-priced chicken meat continues to increase rapidly. The increase is propelled by a growth in purchasing power and a substantial population increase. Entry of agricultural commodities into Mexico has become less restricted, and U.S. dark broiler meat parts remain competitively priced.

Exports are also up substantially to the Middle East, where over 60 percent are whole birds, in contrast to only 7-8 percent whole birds among all exports. U.S. sales to Kuwait re-

Figure 6
U.S. Broiler Exports as Share of Total Production



1991 and 1992 projected.

Table 12--U.S. broiler exports to major importers

Country on once	August	January-	August
Country or area	August	1990	1991
	Th	nousand pound	ls
Japan Hong Kong U.S.S.R. Mexico Canada Singapore Jamaica Spain Saudi Arabia U. Arab Emirates Netherlands Antilles Angola French Polynesia Oman Other	24,537 17,202 0 11,504 6,808 4,848 2,541 2,283 960 514 1,444 0 806 268 14,738	142,206 117,544 193,779 55,242 52,796 32,353 17,063 10,988 10,011 5,585 8,059 93 6,570 363 102,613	165,242 142,542 97,896 85,992 45,716 29,711 21,010 17,179 16,420 13,640 10,912 7,553 6,781 6,525 94,792
Grand total	88,453	755,266	761,911

sumed in July, but they remain small. Sales of whole birds to the Middle East are under the Export Enhancement Program (EEP). Small sales under EEP are also being made to Singapore. Sales under EEP this year are estimated to be about the same as last year, and will account for 4-5 percent of total broiler exports.

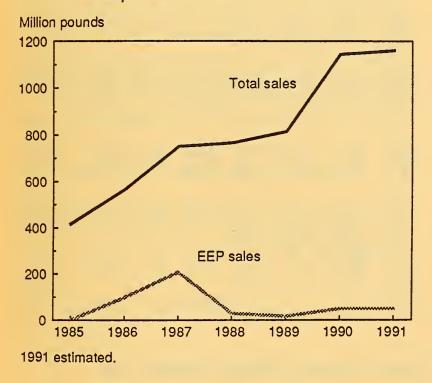
Continued Export Growth Expected in 1992

Broiler exports in 1992 are expected to increase slightly--2 to 3 percent from this year. Continued competitive U.S. prices for dark meat parts during 1992 will likely again be the major driving factor. However, the uncertainty regarding sales to the large USSR market clouds the outlook. Continued large sales to the USSR in 1992 would likely result in substantial growth in exports, but conversely, a sharp drop to

Table 13--U.S. mature chicken exports to major importers

Country or area	August	January-A	January-August		
Country or area	August	1990	1991		
	TI	nousand pound	ds		
Canada Mexico Netherlands Antilles Japan St. Lucia Jamaica Marshall Islands Guyana Antigua Dominica Aruba Bahamas St. Christ-Nevis Hong Kong Singapore Other	522 395 138 103 0 571 54 0 0 50 0 98 0 25 0	5,915 813 3,134 591 1,757 37 186 0 1,319 269 286 437 536 460 342 2,366	5,631 2,410 2,058 1,106 904 784 688 573 482 331 279 247 241 205 23 1,119		
Grand total	2,308	18,448	17,081		

Figure 7
U.S. Broiler Exports



the USSR could result in a decline in overall exports next year.

The Pacific region is expected to remain a large growth market in 1992, taking nearly 50 percent of total U.S. broiler exports. These Pacific countries generally are realizing good economic growth and poultry meat consumption is steadily increasing. This includes China, which has become a moderate importer of U.S. broiler meat in recent years, and whose consumption is rapidly expanding from a low base.

Mexico is also expected to continue to increase its imports. The Middle East market should grow again in 1992, but by how much will again largely depend on EEP sales. Rapid growth is expected to continue in the smaller markets. These

smaller markets combined could account for about 8 percent of total exports in 1992, compared with 2 percent in 1989.

Eggs

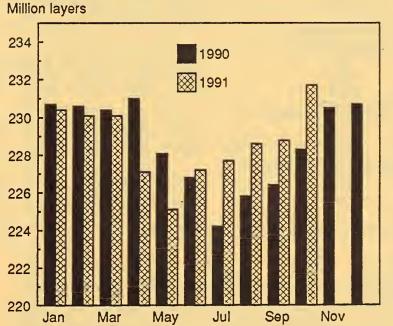
Production Up Slightly, Prices Lower

Total egg production in 1991 will likely rise over 1 percent to 5.7 billion dozen, with the increase about equally divided between table eggs and hatching eggs. Table egg output will increase nearly 1 percent, to 4.9 billion dozen. Table egg production during the third quarter increased over 1 percent from a year earlier as the flock size expanded.

The total flock continues to grow, and at the beginning of October, with 274.4 million hens, was 2 percent larger than both a year ago and on September 1. The table-egg flock on October 1, 231.7 million hens, was nearly 2 percent larger than a year ago, and about 1 percent larger than on September 1. However, the rate of lay in the table-egg flock declined nearly 1 percent from September to October. Fourthquarter table egg production will be nearly 1 percent above a year ago.

Figure 8

Table-Egg Flock Size



First of the month.

Table 14--Layers on farms and eggs produced 1/

Quar- ters	Numbe of lay		Eg per l	gs ayer	Egg prod	s uced
	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991
	- Mill	ion -	- Num	ber -	Million	dozen
I II III IV Annual	271 273 267 267 270	273 271 271	61.3 63.0 63.5 63.7 251.6	62.2 63.6 63.5	1387.0 1436.0 1412.3 1417.3 5652.7	1415.4 1439.3 1434.8

1/ Marketing year beginning December 1.

Table 15--Force moltings and light-type hen slaughter, 1989-1991

			Force molte	ed layers 1/	,		12.64		
Month		Being molted	2/	Mo	lt completed	2/	unde	type hens sl r Federal ir	spection
	1989	1990	1991	1989	1990	1991	1989	1990	1991
			Per	cent				-Thousands	
January February March April May June July August September October November December	4.1 4.9 4.3 3.9 5.3 5.6 4.0 2.5 4.6 2.7	3.0 5.5 4.1 1.9 4.8 4.3 3.8 4.0 3.4 3.7 3.4	3.0 4.2 3.5 3.1 6.5 5.4 4.2 3.7 4.0 4.1	23.9 21.5 21.7 21.5 21.4 21.7 21.7 22.7 23.0 22.9 23.5 23.9	21.5 20.9 21.7 22.0 19.9 20.7 20.6 20.9 21.0 20.7 20.9	20.0 18.5 18.5 19.3 18.4 19.3 19.7 20.5 20.5 21.0	12,219 11,819 13,645 10,528 11,868 10,316 10,194 10,871 10,777 10,249 9,158 11,294	12,258 9,896 10,874 13,621 13,158 11,620 10,786 11,487 9,101 10,548 9,668 9,294	10,974 9,956 10,169 12,275 12,144 9,206 9,929 10,181 9,399

^{1/} Revisions include data from late reports or other corrections developed by the Food Safety and Inspection Service. 2/ Prior to 1990, the percent of hens and pullets of laying age were from 15 selected states. Beginning with 1990, the percent of hens and pullets of laying age are from 20 selected states.

Table 16--Egg prices and price spreads

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	A∨g.
							Cents/d	loz.					
Farm price 1/:													
1989	55.8	53.8	73.3	58.0	54.1	55.5	56.7	64.5	64.2	64.2	73.1	77.6	62.6
1990	78.0	62.3	71.6	63.9	50.9	53.7	47.2	58.1	60.9	65.4	65.9	70.3	62.4
1991 New York (cartoned)	73.6	60.1	74.9	56.2	49.7	49.6	56.2	55.5	54.5	55.3			
Grade A, large 2/:													
1989	72.0	71.1	92.2	76.6	73.7	75.2	76.5	84.2	83.8	84.8	93.4	99.6	82.0
1990	92.4	79.6	91.5	82.4	67.9	73.6	70.9	80.3	82.2	86.5	86.5	92.5	82.2
1991	87.5	78.3	91.9	74.9	67.0	68.8	79.6	76.3	75. 5	74.5			
4-Region average,													
Grade A, large													
retail price 1989	94.1	89.0	103.1	99.7	95.6	93.7	96.1	98.3	103.8	102.3	108.0	113.7	99.8
1990	122.3	104.1	111.1	109.2	94.0	93.0	89.9	95.4	94.6	101.2	101.8	100.1	101.4
1991	110.6	98.7	106.9	100.2	90.8	88.4	96.6	102.4	98.7			10011	
Price spreads													
retail-to-consumer:													
1989	18.2	18.6	10.2	23.1	21.2	17.2	18.3	12.1	16.7	16.0	12.3	12.7	16.4
1990 1991	26.7 19.0	22.1 19.3	16.8 13.1	24.3	24.0 22.9	17.2 18.5	16.9 17.5	14.5 25.3	12.9 24.2	14.7	16.2	7.8	17.8
Consumer price index:	17.0	17.3	13.1	23.1	22.7	10.5	1982-84		24.2				
1989	112.0	106.1	122.9	117.6	112.6	110.6	112.8	115.2	124.6	122.9	129.4	134.9	118.5
1990	143.9	124.7	131.6	130.3	115.0	112.2	109.1	119.6	120.6	125.5	128.5	128.7	124.1
1991	139.8	125.4	133.1	124.8	112.4	110.2	113.9	121.0	118.0				

^{1/} Market (table) eggs including eggs sold retail by the producer. 2/ Price to volume buyers.

Slightly larger egg supplies during the third quarter pushed wholesale egg prices about a cent below a year earlier. Holiday cooking and baking will provide a seasonal boost in egg demand during the fourth quarter, but not enough to offset production increases. Prices are expected to average around 77 cents per dozen, 11-12 cents below a year earlier. The wholesale egg price for 1991 will likely average 77-79 cents a dozen, around 4-5 cents below a year ago.

Fourth-quarter retail prices for grade A, large eggs are expected to average in the high-90's per dozen, compared with \$1.01 last year. The average retail price for 1991 will be in the high 90's.

Small Production Increases Expected in 1992

Total egg production for 1992 will likely be about 1 percent above 1991, with most of the growth in broiler hatching eggs. Table egg production is expected to be about the same to fractionally above 1991, with producers expected to adjust production as a result of lower egg prices. The egg-type chick hatch in August was about 1 percent above last year but up 9 percent in September, supporting a production increase in the first quarter. Cumulative egg-type pullet chick placements for the hatchery supply flock for the first 4 months of 1992 are running 7-8 percent below a year ago, one indicator that production is not likely to increase in the second half of 1992.

Table 17--Egg-type chick hatchery operations, 1989-1991

		Hatch		Eggs in	incubato	rs 1/
Month	1989	1990	1991	1989	1990	1991
		Thousands			Percent	
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec	26,602 27,271 32,597 36,135 38,376 34,708 29,828 32,217 32,862 33,456 29,666 29,188	32,004 32,107 36,509 36,915 37,895 34,471 31,582 32,949 31,219 31,926 30,049 31,335	33,145 34,757 37,023 39,527 38,877 35,485 34,743 33,339 33,949	-18 1 -16 4 5 -2 16 17 4 7 -2	24 24 27 5 3 -4 -1 -2 0 -5 -1 8	2 -2 -1 -1 8 16 11 5 15

1/ First of the month; percent change from previous year.

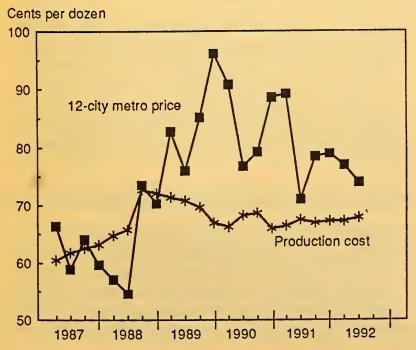
Lower Prices Coming in 1992

Wholesale prices for New York, grade A, large eggs in 1992 are expected to average around 75 cents per dozen, down 2-3 cents from this year. First-quarter prices are expected to be 10-11 cents below this year, but about 1-2 cents higher for the second quarter. Seasonal egg price increases normally experienced in advance of Easter are anticipated to be spread over both the first and second quarter, since Easter falls in the middle of April in 1992. The average retail egg price for 1992 is estimated in the low 90's, a few cents below this year, reflecting the drop in wholesale prices, but to a lesser extent.

Net Returns To Continue Positive, but Lower

Egg producers can expect positive net returns in 1992 for the fourth consecutive year. However, returns will likely be sharply lower than in 1991, reflecting lower egg prices and

Egg Production Costs and Prices



Fourth-quarter 1991 and all of 1992 projected. Wholesale basis.

feed costs that are about the same. First-quarter 1992 net returns are expected to average 10-11 cents a dozen, down from 23 cents this year. Returns are expected to decline sharply in the second quarter, as prices fall after Easter, but strengthen in the third and fourth quarters as egg prices strengthen and corn prices fall.

Consumption Decline Continues

Per capita egg consumption in 1992 is expected to continue the long-term decline experienced since the end of World War II. While recent declines have generally been associated with health concerns and reduced breakfast eating, the current estimates reflect strong export demand and only fractional increases in production. Per capita consumption in 1992 is estimated at around 231 eggs, compared with 232-233 in 1991. The use of eggs in forms other than shell eggs will continue to grow. Egg product use is expected to represent around 24-25 percent of total egg consumption in 1992, compared with 23-24 percent in 1991 and 21.5 percent in 1990.

U.S. Egg Exports Expected To Hold Steady in 1992

Egg exports have increased sharply in 1991, rising about 40 percent from 1990, to about 140 million dozen. The growth reflects lower U.S. prices and large EEP sales of table eggs, particularly to Hong Kong and the Middle East. EEP sales are expected to represent about 15 percent of total 1991 egg exports, up from nearly 10 percent in 1990, but below the high of 25 percent in 1987.

Table 18--Shell eggs broken and egg products produced under Federal inspection

n to t	Shell	Egg prod	ducts produ	ced 1/
Period	eggs broken	Liquid 2/	Frozen	Dried
	1000 dozen		1000 pounds	
1990: January February March April May June July August September October November December Year	81,158 75,303 84,119 80,647 95,078 92,228 94,525 96,450 83,822 98,636 89,368 79,397 1,050,731	37,182 33,657 39,976 35,311 41,162 37,716 37,339 40,629 37,138 45,553 38,658 34,735 459,056	30,282 29,998 33,951 30,582 36,587 32,672 36,391 34,151 31,546 41,798 35,287 31,665 404,910	8,204 7,834 8,718 8,440 11,073 10,067 10,760 9,925 7,536 8,482 9,262 10,434 110,735
1991: January February March April May June July August September	90,187 81,133 81,982 98,232 102,307 99,678 104,244 101,044 96,806	37,358 35,826 42,239 44,853 49,284 44,270 44,155 45,962 46,566	34,638 28,747 27,266 34,740 34,324 34,625 37,099 34,473 31,993	11,689 11,251 9,591 10,712 11,149 12,858 9,956 11,086 9,085

1/ Includes ingredients added. All expressed in liquid

egg equivalent.
2/ Liquid egg products produced for immediate consumption.

Table 19--U.S. egg exports to major importers 1/

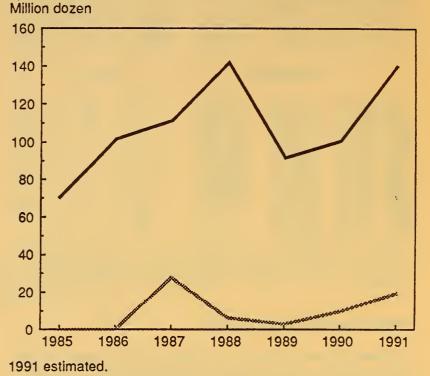
Country on once	August	January-	January-August		
Country or area	August	1990	1991		
	т	housand doze	n		
Japan Canada Hong Kong Mexico Germany Venezuela Jamaica United Kingdom Peru France Brazil Haiti South Korea U. Arab Emirates Austria Other	4,420 2,426 3,214 437 219 489 260 314 197 3 291 74 44 176 7	12,837 15,651 8,586 3,364 449 51 2,585 763 75 280 1,191 673 545 370 93 6,025	33,122 20,896 20,536 6,502 2,429 2,385 2,292 1,474 1,045 777 767 740 690 637 483 5,433		
Grand total	13,548	53,538	100,208		

^{1/} Shell and shell equivalent of egg products.

Exports in 1992 are expected to be about the same as this year. U.S. prices are expected to average slightly lower, with the U.S. competitive position in foreign markets, particularly Japan and Canada, being generally maintained. EEP sales will be important for 1992 exports, especially to Hong Kong and the Middle East. Any substantial decline in EEP sales from the 1991 level would likely reduce total egg exports.

Egg imports in 1992 are expected to remain low, less than 5 million dozen. Relatively low U.S. prices will encourage egg-breaking firms to buy most of their eggs from domestic sources.

Figure 10
U.S. Egg Exports



World Production Increasing Steadily

World egg production is estimated to increase about 3 percent in 1991 and 1992, the same as in 1990. China, the Soviet Union, the United States, the European Community, and Japan remain the five largest egg producing areas. China, by far the world's largest egg producer, is likely to increase its production by 8 percent in both 1991 and 1992. Production in the Soviet Union, the second largest producer, will likely decline, while Japanese production will likely remain unchanged.

Livestock and Red Meats

Hogs

Expansion Continues Unabated

September's *Hogs and Pigs* report, the third consecutive quarterly report showing herd expansion, indicates that this summer's crop scare and August's price dips have not derailed the current expansion phase of the hog cycle. Producer returns were above cash costs before the producers were surveyed for the report. However, producer returns are now squeezed -- due mainly to sharply lower hog prices.

On September 1, total hogs and market hog inventories in the United States were 6 percent higher than a year earlier. The breeding herd inventory has shown steady year-over-year increases in 1991--7 percent in September, 6 percent in June, and 3 percent in March. More importantly, June-August farrowings were higher than intentions and September-November intentions were higher--strong signs that crop conditions did not deter producers from expanding herds in the

near term. The next *Hogs and Pigs* report will be issued on January 3, 1992.

Early indications that the expansion would center initially in the western Corn Belt and spread out by this fall are holding. Growth in inventory and larger pig crops were initially centered in Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska. More recent increases were in Ohio, Minnesota, and other States reported in the 16-State total. North Carolina showed strong increases in all categories in these reports; Kansas was the exception on the weak side.

Producer Returns Pressured by Sharp, Deep Price Drops

Net returns over cash costs are still positive, but are under pressure from sharp and deeper-than-expected price drops. While total cash expenses and capital replacement costs are expected to remain almost unchanged at about \$36 (given current crop prices) and \$6 per cwt respectively, lower hog prices will be the main force severely squeezing producer re-

Table 20--Hogs on farms, farrowings, and pig crops, United States

				1990	1991
Inventory	1989	1990	1991	1989	1990
•					
		1,000 hea	ad		cent
				cha	nge
March 1 inventory	52,965	51,150	52,760	-3	3
Breeding Market	7,081 45,884	6,806 44,344	6,992 45,768	-4 -3	3
Under 60 lb 60-119 lb	17,624 10,995	16,895 10,602	17.663	-4 -4	3 3 5 4 1
120-179 lb	9.493	9,209	11,036	-3	1
180 + lb	7,772	7,638	7,754	-2	2
June 1 inventory	55,880	53,850	56,340	-4	5
Breeding Market	7,315 48,565	7,075 46,775	7,480 48,860	-3 -4	6 4 5 6 3
Under 60 lb 60-119 lb	48,565 20,687	46,775 19,806	48,860 20,720 12,375	-4 -3	5
120-179 lb	12,090 8,785	11,718 8,535	8,821	-3	3
180 + lb	7,003	6,716	6,944	-4	3
Sept. 1 inventory	57,315	55,940	59,300	-2	6 7
Breeding Market	6,832 50,483	6,815 49,125	7,270 52,030	0 -3	6
Under 60 lb 60-119 lb	19,150	49,125 18,936 12,218	20,105 13,010	-1 -2	6 6 6
120-179 lb	50,483 19,150 12,502 10,559 8,272	10,132 7,839	10,640	-4	5
180 + lb	8,272	7,839	8,275	-5	6
Dec. 1 inventory	53,821	54,462		1	
Breeding Market	6,862 46,959	6,867 47,595		0	
under 60 lb 60-119 lb	17,195 12,183	17,861 12,204		4 0	
120-179 lb	9,673	9,639		0	
180 + lb	7,908	7,891		0	
Sows farrowing	2 727	2 (00	2,705	_	,
Dec. 1/-Feb. March-May	2,723 3,318	2,600 3,142	3,291	-5 -5	4 5
Dec. 1/-May June-August	6.041	5,742	3,291 5,996 3,107	-5 -3	4
SeptNov.	2,977 2,798	3,142 5,742 2,879 2,834	3,073 2	2/ 1	5 4 8 8 8
June-Nov.	5,775	5,713	6,180 2	2/ -1	8
Pig crop	24 470	20.7/0	24 207	,	-
Dec. 1/-Feb. March-May	21,168 26,070	20,349 24,958 45,307 22,737	21,283 26,233	-4 -4	5 5 5 8
Dec. 1/-May	47,238 23,192	45,307	47,516 24,496	-4	5
June-August SeptNov.	21,644	22,101	24,470	-4 -2 2 0	0
June-Nov.	44,836	44,904		0	
Digo mon litter		Number	•		
Pigs per litter Dec. 1/-Feb.	7.77	7.83	7.87	1	1
March-May	7.86	7.94	7.97	1.	1 0 0
Dec. 1/-May June-Aug.	7.82 7.79	7.89 7.90	7.92 7.88	1	Ö
SeptNov. June-Nov.	7.74 7.76	7.82 7.86		1	
	7.70				

1/ December preceding year. 2/ Intentions

turns in the coming months. Given the tight corn carryover, any market shock affecting corn prices will squeeze producer returns further.

Third-Quarter and October Recap

After picking up some steam in July, barrow and gilt prices dropped each week in August. This dip was a few weeks earlier and sharper than the normal seasonal price pattern (figure 11). Prices averaged \$50.78 per cwt for the month-down \$4.45 from July. Price decreases were almost entirely driven by supply-side factors, namely seasonal slaughter in-

Table 21--Hogs on farms, farrowings, and pig crops, 10 States

Inventory	1989	1990	1991	1990 1989	1991
		1,000 hea	ad		cent
March 1 inventory Breeding Market Under 60 lb 60-119 lb 120-179 lb 180 + lb	41,655 5,445 36,210 13,865 8,678 7,545 6,122	40,190 5,245 34,945 13,289 8,335 7,338 5,983	41,990 5,450 36,540 14,040 8,770 7,555 6,175	-4 -4 -3 -4 -4 -3 -2	4 4 5 6 5 3 3
June 1 inventory Breeding Market Under 60 lb 60-119 lb 120-179 lb 180 + lb	44,020 5,550 38,470 16,315 9,600 6,995 5,560	42,630 5,405 37,225 15,680 9,325 6,845 5,375	44,470 5,700 38,770 16,360 9,815 7,070 5,525	-3 -3 -3 -4 -3 -2	4 5 4 4 5 3
Sept. 1 inventory Breeding Market Under 60 lb 60-119 lb 120-179 lb 180 + lb	45,050 5,320 39,730 15,045 9,845 8,430 6,410	44,120 5,300 38,820 14,880 9,580 8,190 6,170	46,950 5,685 41,265 15,885 10,280 8,575 6,525	-2 0 -2 -1 -3 -3	6 7 6 7 7 5 6
Dec. 1 inventory Breeding Market under 60 lb 60-119 lb 120-179 lb 180 + lb	42,200 5,275 36,925 13,450 9,602 7,609 6,264	42,900 5,257 37,643 14,105 9,693 7,600 6,245		2 0 2 5 1 0	
Sows farrowing Dec. 1/-Feb. March-May Dec. 1/-May June-August SeptNov. June-Nov.	2,114 2,585 4,699 2,309 2,195 4,504	2,028 2,458 4,486 2,236 2,238 4,474	2,129 2,577 4,706 2,441 2,433 4,874	-4 -5 -5 -3 2/ 2 2/ -1	5 5 5 9 9
Pig crop Dec. 1/-Feb. March-May Dec. 1/-May June-August SeptNov. June-Nov.	16,481 20,348 36,829 18,049 16,929 34,978	15,870 19,576 35,446 17,684 17,459 35,143	16,770 20,555 37,325 19,260	-4 -4 -4 -2 3 0	6 5 5 9
Pigs per litter		Numbe	r		
Dec. 1/-Feb. March-May Dec. 1/-May June-Aug. SeptNov. June-Nov.	7.80 7.87 7.84 7.82 7.71 7.77	7.83 7.96 7.90 7.91 7.80 7.85	7.88 7.98 7.93 7.89	0 1 1 1 1	1 0 0 0

1/ December preceding year. 2/ Intentions

creases, higher average hog weights, and general anticipation of abundant future supplies.

September's hog prices held up firmly--moving slightly up each week after hitting a low of \$45.33 per cwt in the first week. Still, September's average hog price of \$46.53 was \$4.25 below August's. Speculation is that September's price moderation was due to near-perfect weather for fieldwork, which slowed hog marketings. Third-quarter hog prices averaged \$50.85.

Six Market Barrow and Gilt Prices

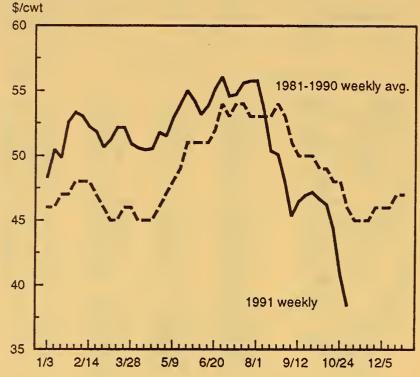


Table 22--Sow slaughter balance sheet, United States

1989	1990	1991
1,	,000 head	
7,054	6,862	6,867
956 983	934 878	873 998
7,081	6,806	6,992
975 1,209	887 1 , 156	845 1,333
7,315	7,075	7,480
1,192 709	1,054 794	997 787
6,832	6,815	7,270
1,105 1,135	970 1,022	
	7,054 956 983 7,081 975 1,209 7,315 1,192 709 6,832 1,105	1,000 head 7,054 6,862 956 934 983 878 7,081 6,806 975 887 1,209 1,156 7,315 7,075 1,192 1,054 709 794 6,832 6,815 1,105 970

1/ December previous year.

Slaughter for the third quarter was 4.8 percent higher than a year ago. Weekly slaughter rates usually dip in June and July and pick up in August through November. This year's weekly rates behaved normally, but at higher average levels-year-over-year increases were running about 4.5, 4.2 and 1.5 percent for July, August, and September, respectively. September's lower-than-expected weekly rates could have led to the price strengthening that occurred in that month and the subsequent slaughter increases and resultant sharp price declines in October.

Weekly slaughter rates in October usually show about a 3-percent seasonal increase: this year, the rate almost doubled.

Some of the increase reflects higher marketings due to the expansion cycle and part of the increase supports the argument that hogs were held back from slaughter in September. These higher weekly rates caused a 14-percent year-to-year slaughter increase and caused hog prices to decline each week. Prices dropped \$1 per day towards the end of the month--hitting \$37.17 per cwt--to average \$43.16 per cwt for the month.

Slaughter Picking Up Steam into 1992

Hog slaughter and pork production during fourth-quarter 1991 are expected to be 7 percent above last year, pushing 1991 pork production 4 percent above 1990. Three consecutive quarters of growth in the breeding herd provide the basis for sustained increased production in 1992. Herd buildups should subside by late summer or early fall as producers react to lower returns. Quarterly pork production, however, should still see year-over-year increases until mid-1993. As a result of herd expansion, first-half 1992 production should be 8 percent higher than a year ago. Second-half production should be 7 percent higher than a year earlier partly as a result of the start of herd liquidation. These production increases would place 1992 slaughter under the record levels of 1971 and 1980, but--because of higher average dressed weights--push pork production to a new peak.

Quarterly year-over-year production increases should continue through second-quarter 1993 and mark the end of the expansion phase of the current cycle. This assumes a shorter-than-average cycle as compared with post-1965 cycles. The lingering weak economy and ample supplies of competitive meats throughout the period will likely contribute to making it a short cycle. If this scenario holds up, breeding herds by fourth-quarter 1992 or first-quarter 1993 will register the first year-to-year decreases since third-quarter 1989.

Hog Prices To Remain in Low \$40's

Increased pork production and abundant substitute meat supplies are expected to depress hog prices. Hog prices are expected to range in the low \$40's for much of 1992, perhaps going \$1 higher in the second quarter and coming down to \$40 or lower next fall.

Retail Prices To More Fully Reflect Increased Supplies

Retail pork prices averaged \$2.15 for the third quarter, up 2 cents from second-quarter 1991. The change was due mainly to retail price strength in July, because since July monthly prices have dipped. This downward trend is expected to persist for the remainder of the year and for most of 1992. Fourth-quarter 1991 prices are expected to average about \$2.05, down a full 18 cents from a year ago.

With production projected 8 percent above last year for the first half of 1992, retail prices are likely to decline to under \$2 per pound for much of the first half. Continued produc-

Table 23--Summer pig crop and hog slaughter

Table 24--Fall pig crop and hog slaughter

Year	Pig crop June-Aug.	Commercial slaughter, Jan-Mar. 1/	Slaughter as percentage of pig crop
1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1988 1989 1990 1991	25,142 23,260 21,838 21,209 20,273 18,022 21,656 22,239 22,937 26,915 24,417 23,548 21,383 23,361 22,346 22,010 21,280 22,904 23,414 23,192 22,737 24,496	24,257 22,260 20,225 20,149 18,760 17,432 19,770 19,405 20,040 24,236 23,678 21,714 20,211 21,806 20,872 20,872 20,872 20,872 21,360 21,876 21,884 21,507	96.5 95.7 92.6 95.0 92.5 96.7 91.3 87.3 87.4 90.0 97.0 92.2 94.5 93.3 93.4 92.6 93.7 93.3 93.4 94.6

			.
Year	Pig crop SeptNov.	: Commercial : slaughter, : AprJune 1/	: Slaughter as : percentage of : pig crop
1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989	24,446 22,746 21,213 20,789 18,679 17,634 20,562 20,963 23,094 25,326 25,015 22,700 22,231 22,424 21,837 21,480 20,846 22,023 22,586 21,644 22,167	23,610 21,389 19,478 21,014 17,808 16,822 18,743 19,042 21,740 25,040 22,594 20,712 21,667 21,123 21,344 20,316 18,912 20,877 21,944 20,263 20,921	Percent 96.6 94.0 91.8 101.1 95.3 95.4 91.2 90.8 94.1 98.9 90.3 91.2 97.5 94.2 97.7 94.6 90.7 94.8 97.2 93.6 94.4

^{1/} April-June of the following year.

Table 25--Winter pig crop and hog slaughter

Table 26--Spring pig crop and hog slaughter

Year	Pig crop MarMay	Commercial slaughter, OctDec.	: Slaughter as : percentage of : pig crop
1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1985 1986 1987	1,00 32,355 30,959 28,271 27,075 26,283 20,243 24,605 24,428 23,674 28,664 28,664 28,663 26,560 22,816 26,560 22,816 26,532 23,646 23,445 21,878 24,012 25,822		Percent 78.1 78.4 76.5 74.7 79.5 83.1 87.6 83.9 85.8 88.0 86.1 90.5 91.3 91.7 96.2 92.6 92.9 95.1
1989 1990 1991	26,070 24,958 26,233	23,304 22,645	89.4 90.7

tion increases by mid-1992 should further weaken secondhalf retail prices by at least 5-10 cents per pound.

Hams and Bellies Highlight Frozen Product Movements

Frozen pork inventories are holding at about average levels except for larger-than-average inventories of frozen hams and products in the general category of "other frozen pork stocks." This summer's stock movements followed the typical seasonal pattern of heavy drawdowns of bellies and spare-

ribs, with net add-ins of hams. However, September's net-in of over 10 million pounds of hams was a 10-year record high and placed stocks about 25 percent over historical levels.

In October, belly stocks were cut in half, closely following normal seasonal patterns. This pattern usually involves heavy fall and early spring net add-ins and heavy summer drawdowns. Fall net-add ins make up about 60 percent of the net add-in volumes for the year. The current spread between cash wholesale fresh prices and prices of the nearby

^{1/} January-March of the following year.

Table 27--Commercial hog slaughter and production 1/

Quarter	Barrows & gilts			Total	Dressed	Comm'l prod.
		Thousa	nd head		lb	Mil lb
1987: I II III IV Year	19,007 17,877 18,199 21,776 76,859	763 846 1,010 888 3,507	170 189 187 170 716	19,940 18,912 19,396 22,834 81,082	178 176 174 178 177	3,540 3,327 3,383 4,061 14,311
1988: I II III IV Year	20,282 19,736 19,967 22,932 82,917	889 941 1,182 1,053 4,065	189 200 228 195 812	21,360 20,877 21,377 24,180 87,794	177 179 177 179 178	3,790 3,727 3,775 4,331 15,623
1989: I II II IV Year	20,739 20,687 20,180 22,047 83,653	942 1,038 1,178 1,069 4,227	195 219 209 188 811	21,876 21,944 21,567 23,304 88,691	178 179 176 178 178	3,885 3,929 3,790 4,155 15,759
1990: I II III IV Year	20,789 19,108 19,102 21,507 80,506	887 934 1,030 953 3,804	208 221 213 185 827	21,884 20,263 20,345 22,645 85,137	178 180 179 181 180	3,905 3,647 3,641 4,107 15,300
1991: I II III	20,464 19,844 20,171	845 878 1,006	198 199 194	21,507 20,921 21,371	181 181 179	3,901 3,792 3,821

1/ Classes estimated.

frozen pork belly contract indicates that a substantial storage premium exists. For example, early November wholesale fresh belly prices of \$30-\$32 per cwt contrast with \$41.60 per cwt for the February contract, an amount that should provide processors and wholesalers adequate incentive to store during the next 3 months, pushing stocks up as would be expected given historical patterns. This coming year's increased production, however, could dampen stock buildup until the contraction phase begins--perhaps as late as the fall quarter of 1992. This dampened demand for stocks would put additional pressure on prices in the coming months.

Widened Fall Marketing Spreads and Smaller 1992 Spreads Likely

As expected, farm-to-retail spreads for August and September widened. Each showed about a 4-cent increase from the previous month, despite declining retail and farm prices. Two-thirds of the increase accrued in the farm-to-wholesale spread, probably by packers making up for tight packer spreads reported earlier this summer. Because of July's price strength, however, third-quarter retail prices rose about 1 percent from the second quarter, while farm prices registered a 5-percent drop.

The August to September spreads are even more revealing-while retail prices declined 1 percent, farm prices declined 8 percent. Mid-October to early November drops in wholesale prices appear to more fully reflect the farm price declines.

For example, wholesale loin prices dropped more than 12 percent from mid-October to early November. This recent drop is indicative of wholesale prices, in general, which have dropped almost 10 percent in recent weeks. In addition, increased advertising of pork at attractive prices may be displacing beef and poultry features in many markets. These specially priced sales should lower pork's retail price in the coming months.

Spreads in 1992 are expected to be 6-9 percent lower than 1991 spreads, due mainly to steady retail price declines throughout the year. Spreads could even deviate from the usual summer reduction, due to increased production and likely hog price declines--not increases--for third-quarter 1992.

U.S. Pork Trade

U.S. Pork Imports Will Likely Increase in 1992

U.S. pork imports during January to August 1991 equaled 535 million pounds, 12 percent below last year. For the 8-month period, imports from Canada were 7 percent below 1990, imports from Denmark were about 10 percent below, and imports from Poland continued at low levels. Imports from other major European markets continued to exceed last year.

Given the third-quarter declines in U.S. prices, it is likely that imports for the remainder of the year will continue at these low levels. Although increased supplies of pork in Canada and an almost doubling of the U.S. countervailing duty on Canadian swine could result in increased import of Canadian pork, increased Danish production is being marketed in the EC (primarily Germany and the UK) and imports from Denmark remain below historic levels. Imports from other markets, notably Hungary and the Netherlands, have increased but will be insufficient to offset the decline in

Table 28--U.S. pork trade, carcass weight 1/

Country	Ammiral	January-August			
Country or area			1991	Percent change	
	м	illion poun	ds	Percent	
Imports: Canada Denmark Hungary Poland Other Total	437.1 273.2 33.1 66.6 87.8 897.9	294.5 187.1 22.1 49.2 58.0 610.9	274.1 168.8 28.9 17.1 46.3 535.1	-6.9 -9.8 30.5 -65.3 -20.2 -12.4	
Exports: Japan Mexico Canada Caribbean Other Total	125.5 38.3 22.8 15.0 36.9 238.4	86.0 21.6 13.9 8.4 28.2 158.1	79.0 46.2 15.8 7.9 25.3 174.2	-8.1 113.9 13.5 -5.8 -10.4 10.2	

^{1/} Data may not add to exact totals due to rounding. Percent changes calculated from unrounded data.

imports from such large sources as Denmark and Poland. Imports for the year will likely equal about 840 million pounds, 6 percent below 1990.

These conditions are forecast to continue into early 1992. Imports from Canada are expected to increase. Unless U.S. prices increase or exchange rates favor foreign sources, little growth is expected in imports from Denmark or Poland. Under these circumstances, imports in 1992 will likely increase about 3 percent from 1991.

Increased Duty and Lower U.S. Prices Could Reduce Hog Imports

Despite an increase in the countervailing duty on live hogs in June, imports of live swine surged in July and August. Imports of live hogs during January-August were 16 percent above 1990. Feeder pig imports increased 7 percent above 1990's level while slaughter hog imports were about 20 percent above the first 8 months of 1990.

Imports of Canadian hogs could decline in the remainder of the year as prices for U.S. hogs fall and the new duty on Canadian hogs takes effect. On October 14, the U.S. Department of Commerce increased the countervailing duty deposit on live swine from Can\$4.49 per cwt to Can\$9.32 per cwt and will require exporters to pay the difference between the deposit paid on hogs shipped between the second quarter of 1989 and the first quarter of 1990.

Results of Statistics Canada's third-quarter hog census indicates that a modest increase in numbers can be expected in 1992. Market hog numbers on October 1 were about 1 percent higher than in 1990 in both Eastern and Western Canada. Pigs under 45 pounds were 2 percent higher in the western provinces but only 1 percent higher in eastern Canada. Ontario had 1 percent lighter weight pigs than in October 1990. For the fourth quarter, 2 percent more sows are expected to farrow in western Canada while farrowings in eastern Canada will remain unchanged.

Table 29--U.S. live hogs trade 1/

Carman	Ammuni	January-August			
Country or area	Annual 1990	1990	1991	Percent change	
	Th	ousand he	ad	Percent	
Imports: Canada (Under 110 lb) Total	886.3 204.2 890.3	630.5 144.6 633.1	738.6 154.1 739.5	17.1 6.6 16.8	
Exports: Mexico Other Total	42.0 14.7 56.7	29.7 7.3 37.0	120.1 9.7 129.8	304.1 33.0 250.5	

^{1/} Data may not add to exact totals due to rounding. Percent changes calculated from unrounded data.

U.S. Pork Exports to Japan Lose to Taiwan but Remain Strong to Mexico

U.S. pork exports during January-August were about 10 percent above the first 8 months of 1990. Exports to Japan remained about 8 percent below 1990 but were offset by continued strong sales to Mexico, which increased 113 percent and Canada, which posted a 14-percent increase in imports. Taiwan has continued to squeeze the United States and other competitors out of the Pacific Rim. According to Japanese trade statistics, the U.S. share of Japanese pork imports during January-August has dropped from 13 percent in 1990 to under 10 percent.

For all of 1991, U.S. exports are expected to equal about 255 million pounds, 6 percent above 1990. Japanese production is expected to further decline in 1992 and if imports increase, the United States could increase sales to Japan. If U.S. pork becomes more price competitive, it is possible that exports could increase to the Pacific Rim over the next year. Based on continued sales to Mexico and a slightly improved market in the Pacific Rim, U.S. pork exports are forecast to increase about 5 percent in 1992.

Cattle

Forage Supplies Adequate in Most Areas

Grazing prospects for much of the year have been favorable, but pasture and range conditions in November declined more than seasonally to 72, 1 point above last year, but 2 points below the 1980-89 average. Forage conditions moved closer to year-earlier and 10-year averages in October as dry conditions continued in the Central Plains and West Coast, and intensified in the South Atlantic region, resulting in poor fall forage growth. Cold weather, with record lows in much of the Great Plains, placed increased demand on already limited forage supplies in the Central Plains. Pasture and range conditions in Kansas and Nebraska remained very poor on November 1, as did conditions in Arizona, California, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. Georgia, Oregon, North Carolina, and South Carolina were also in the very poor range. However, unlike last year, no States were in the extreme or severe drought ranges.

Rains accompanying the cold weather were likely too late to help forage conditions in Kansas and Nebraska, but they should begin to improve livestock water supplies. Rains should continue to improve conditions in the southern winter grazing areas.

Stocker programs on small grain and corn stalks face uncertain grazing prospects this year. For the third consecutive year, dry conditions in most of the major winter wheat grazing areas resulted in disappointing wheat pasture growth. Rains and snow in late October-early November may improve winter wheat prospects for 1992, but given the early surge of cold weather, they likely will do little to improve

winter grazing prospects. Grazing appears most favorable throughout Oklahoma and in north-central Texas. Stocker programs based on corn stalk utilization started off favorably this year with an unusually early corn harvest, and followed a good open winter in 1990-91. However, a series of early winter storms and snow cover in many of these areas may increase the uncertainty of these programs this year if supplemental feed needs increase.

Early season record cold, snow, and freezing rain forced increased supplemental feeding in some areas and an early startup in others. However, in most areas hay and accumulated forage stocks, even with expanding cattle numbers, should be adequate for increased supplemental feeding. The hay and forage index for 1991 was reported in the November *Crop Production* report at 108, the largest since 1982. The buildup in hay supplies this year was due to large hay stocks carried over from the last feeding season plus the larger hay harvest.

Hay production this year was estimated in November at 158 million tons, up nearly 11 percent from a year ago, due to a 3-percent rise in harvested acres to 63.1 million and a 5-percent yield increase to 2.51 tons per acre. Production of alfalfa and alfalfa hay mixture rose over 3 percent, while production of all other hays rose 12 percent. Present grazing prospects and expanded hay supplies should provide adequate forage for the cattle and sheep sectors at lower prices than last year in most areas, even if this winter requires more supplemental feeding.

The farm price of all hay dropped nearly 20 percent below a year earlier in October due to larger hay stocks and mild conditions until late in the month. Alfalfa hay prices were down 22 percent from the tight supply situation of a year ago, while the price of other hays was down 10 percent.

Yearling Feeder Cattle Supply Outside Feedlots Surges

Yearling feeder cattle supplies outside feedlots on October 1 increased 25 percent over a year earlier, due mostly to sharply reduced feedlot placements through third-quarter 1991. This summer, placements on feed were sharply curtailed due to substantial losses from fed cattle marketed and continuing high feeder cattle prices. This expanded supply of yearling cattle outside feedlots is likely to result in increased placement weights this fall and winter.

Total yearlings and calves outside feedlots on October 1 were 5 percent above a year ago. In addition to reduced placements, continued large feeder cattle imports from Mexico and Canada and sharply lower calf slaughter have expanded supplies. Feeder calf supplies rose 2 percent, consistent with the slightly larger calf crop expected this year. However, uncertain winter grazing conditions and early-season inclement weather may result in more calves being forced into feedlots as has occurred in the last 2 years.

Table 30--October 1 feeder cattle supply

Item	1989	1990	1991	1991/90
	1	,000 hea	ıd	Percent change
Calves less than 500 lb, July 1 On farms July 1 Slaughter July-Sept.	30,600	30,600	30,900 341	1.0
On feed Oct. 1 1/ Total	385 29,667		329	-43.7 2.2
Steers & heifers 500 + lb 2/ On farms July 1 Slaughter	21,600	21,800	22,700	4.1
July-Sept. On feed Oct. 1 1/ Total	6,980 9,346 5,274	6,919 10,001 4,880		1.9 -4.6 25.2
Total Supply	34,941	34,467	36,341	5.4

1/ Estimated U.S. steers and heifers. 2/ Not including heifers for cow replacement.

Feedlot placements in 1991 are expected to fall nearly 8 percent below a year earlier. Fall placements, although rising seasonally, are expected to average below last year as feedlot losses continue. Increased numbers of heavier yearling cattle at lower prices are expected to support larger placements in late fall. Placements in 1992 are expected to rise about 5 percent above this year's low level. Continued weather extremes could force placements above year-earlier levels this fall through early winter, but feeder cattle prices would have to drop even further, given the pessimistic profit outlook through late winter.

On Feed Inventory Drops Below a Year Earlier

The October 1 Cattle on Feed report covering 13-States indicated that third-quarter placements were the lowest for that

Table 31--Cattle on feed, placements, and marketings, 13 States

Item	1989	1990	1991	1991/90
		1,000 hea	ad	Percent change
On feed July 1 Placements, Jul-Sep Marketings, Jul-Sep	8,680 5,719 5,896	8,761 6,333 5,741	9,426 5,364 5,968	- 15 4
Other disappearance, Jul-Sep	227	261	282	8
On feed October 1 Steers & steer calves Less than 500 lb 500-699 lb 700-899 lb 900-1,099 lb 1,100 lb and over Heifers & heifer calves Less than 500 lb 500-699 lb 700-899 lb 900-1,099 lb 1,100 lb and over Cows	8,276 5,251 229 584 1,564 1,919 955 2,990 97 471 1,201 1,055 166 35	9,092 5,909 340 873 1,732 2,037 927 3,143 159 594 1,256 1,004 130 40	8,540 5,663 204 653 1,549 1,992 1,265 2,836 79 405 1,096 1,057 199 41	-6 -4 -40 -25 -11 -2 36 -10 -50 -32 -13
Marketings, Oct-Dec 1/	5,346	5,254	5,155	-2

1/ Marketings for 1991 are intentions.

Table 32--13-States cattle on feed, placements, marketings, and other disappearance 1/

Quarters	On feed 2/	Percent change	Place- ments	Percent change	Fed marketings	Percent change	Other disappearance	Percent change
	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	Percent
1989: I II III IV Year	9,688 9,918 8,680 8,276	-4.2 2.3 -6.7 -6.5	6,232 5,212 5,719 7,306 24,469	7.0 -11.9 -5.2 9.8 0.2	5,658 6,040 5,896 5,346 22,940	-3.3 2.7 -5.8 -2.2 -2.2	344 410 227 293 1,274	-11.8 -3.1 0.9 -16.8 -8.3
1990: I II III IV Year	9,943 10,063 8,761 9,092	2.6 1.5 0.9 9.9	6,083 5,086 6,333 7,486 24,988	-2.4 -2.4 10.7 2.5 2.1	5,578 5,988 5,741 5,254 22,561	-1.4 -0.9 -2.6 -1.7 -1.7	385 400 261 347 1,393	11.9 -2.4 15.0 18.4 9.3
1991: I II III IV Year	10,977 10,869 9,426 8,540	10.4 8.0 7.6 -6.1	5,692 4,890 5,364 15,946	-6.4 -3.9 -15.3	5,338 5,869 5,968 3/ 5,155 22,330	-4.3 -2.0 4.0 -1.9 -1.0	462 464 282 1,208	20.0 16.0 8.0

Table 33--7-States cattle on feed, placements, marketings, and other disappearance 1/

Year	On feed	Percent change	Net Placements	Percent change	Marketings	Percent change	Other dis- appearance	Percent change
4000	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	Percent
1989: January February March April May June July August September October November December	8,045 7,970 7,931 8,252 8,087 7,795 7,235 6,763 6,631 6,958 7,911 8,331	-4.4 -2.9 0.2 2.4 3.3 -4.2 -6.5 -5.3 -4.5 -6.0 -3.5	1,602 1,495 1,900 1,415 1,460 1,231 1,228 1,562 1,906 2,581 1,910 1,450	2.9 19.3 9.4 2.4 -28.0 -6.7 3.3 -2.0 -11.0 9.1 21.0	1,677 1,534 1,579 1,580 1,752 1,791 1,700 1,694 1,579 1,628 1,490 1,403	-4.9 -0.7 -0.9 -1.8 1.6 4.3 -4.8 -5.4 -6.1 3.3 -1.8 -7.5	104 115 75 124 164 62 63 76 47 71 91	-1.9 -8.7 -32.4 -10.8 12.3 -8.8 1.6 15.2 -29.9 -15.5 -18.8 -24.3
1990: January February March April May June July August September October November December	8,378 8,526 8,319 8,483 8,181 7,867 7,310 7,003 6,990 7,670 8,729 9,129	4.1 7.0 4.9 2.8 1.2 0.9 1.0 3.5 5.4 10.2 10.3 9.6	1,792 1,293 1,782 1,252 1,462 1,262 1,443 1,653 2,125 2,664 1,912	11.9 -13.5 -6.2 -11.5 0.1 2.5 17.5 5.8 11.5 3.2 0.1 -6.4	1,644 1,500 1,618 1,554 1,776 1,819 1,750 1,666 1,445 1,605 1,512 1,349	-2.0 -2.2 2.5 -1.6 1.4 1.6 2.9 -1.7 -8.5 -1.4 1.5 -3.8	114 95 120 125 150 73 77 82 79 87 95	9.6 -17.4 60.0 0.8 -8.5 17.7 22.2 7.9 68.1 22.5 4.4 39.1
1991: January February March April May June July August September October	9,137 9,103 8,974 9,056 8,675 8,585 7,847 7,348 7,009 7,156	9.1 6.8 7.9 6.8 6.0 9.1 7.3 4.9 0.3 -6.7	1,598 1,312 1,581 1,274 1,576 963 1,225 1,372	-10.8 1.5 -11.3 1.8 7.8 -23.7 -15.1 -17.0 -17.9	1,632 1,441 1,499 1,655 1,666 1,701 1,724 1,711	-0.7 -3.9 -7.4 6.5 -6.2 -6.5 -1.5 2.7	118 113 137 128 141 114 92 67 76	3.5 18.9 14.2 2.4 -6.0 56.2 19.5 -18.3 -3.8

^{1/} Percent changes are from previous year.

^{--- =} Not applicable.

1/ Percent changes are from previous year.

2/ Beginning of quarter.

3/ Expected marketings.

quarter since 1981, and 15 percent below third-quarter 1990. Fed cattle were often marketed this summer at losses exceeding \$100 to \$150 per head, reducing feedlot operators' incentives to place cattle. Feedlot operators were unable to bid stockers away from forage-based enterprises that had abundant forage supplies for much of this year because these systems offered a lower alternative cost of gain. Favorable forage availability from pastures and ranges, hay, and other sources allowed more cattle to be kept on forage than in recent years. Thus, lighter weight stockers and feeders are being kept on forage-based rations.

Reduced feedlot placements and a 4-percent rise in fed cattle marketings this summer resulted in a 6-percent drop in the cattle on feed inventory on October 1. Steers and heifers on feed weighing less than 500 pounds had the greatest year-to-year reduction, 40 and 50 percent below a year ago, respectively. Most of the cattle that were placed on feed during the summer quarter likely were heavier weight feeders.

Slaughter Weights Continue To Set Records

Feedlots have had an incentive to add extra pounds before marketing fed cattle for much of this year due to excellent rates of gain, the high price of replacement cattle, and relatively attractive feed costs. These heavier marketing weights are reflected in the federally inspected steer carcass weights for September, which averaged 781 pounds, 20 pounds heavier than a year earlier and 58 pounds above the 1980-89 average.

Even with the record heavy weights, packers are not discounting heavy weight cattle sufficiently to force earlier marketing, probably because a continued smaller percentage of the fed cattle grade Choice. This indicates that record marketing weights are not necessarily indicative of overfinishing. Feedlots are likely to continue marketing at heavier weights in an attempt to improve the slaughter grade given present feeding practices. Therefore, with the cost of gain in feedlots in the low \$.50's per pound, 600- to 700-pound feeder steers averaging in the upper \$80's and fed cattle prices in the low \$70's per cwt, feedlot operators have an incentive to market larger framed cattle at heavier weights.

Beef Production Expected To Remain Above a Year Earlier

Although cattle on feed inventories have fallen below a year earlier, fed cattle marketings are expected to increase through at least next summer due to large numbers of heavier weight cattle on feed and an expanded supply of heavy yearling feeder cattle. However, production increases will only about offset population increases, leaving per capita beef consumption about unchanged from this year's cyclical low.

Fed steer and heifer slaughter weights are expected to remain near record levels, but increased beef cow slaughter in 1992 will help level off cattle slaughter weights. Total cow slaughter through September was down 6 percent from a year earlier as a 15-percent decline in beef cow slaughter more than offset a nearly 5-percent rise in dairy cow slaughter. Cow slaughter is expected to rise next year, largely the result of closer culling of an aging beef cow herd and as more replacement heifers calve and enter the herd.

Table 34--Commercial cattle slaughter and production 1/

Ouentens	St	Steers and heifers		Steers and heifersBulls			Pulle		Dressed	Commercial
Quarters	Fed	Nonfed	Total	Cows	and stags	Total	weight	production		
			Thousan	d head			Pounds	Million pounds		
1988: I II III IV Year	6,621 6,777 7,209 6,192 26,800	281 314 248 457 1,299	6,902 7,091 7,457 6,649 28,099	1,528 1,505 1,576 1,729 6,338	151 164 167 162 644	8,581 8,760 9,200 8,540 35,081	664 660 672 674 668	5,700 5,784 6,185 5,755 23,424		
1989: I II III IV Year	6,390 6,959 6,785 6,055 26,188	97 27 195 437 757	6,487 6,986 6,980 6,492 26,945	1,550 1,541 1,460 1,765 6,316	144 166 175 172 657	8,181 8,693 8,615 8,429 33,918	676 665 684 685 677	5,530 5,777 5,893 5,774 22,974		
1990: I II III IV Year	6,302 6,873 6,611 5,944 25,730	126 125 308 388 947	6,428 6,998 6,919 6,332 26,677	1,535 1,387 1,372 1,626 5,920	152 163 170 159 644	8,115 8,548 8,461 8,117 33,241	679 671 688 686 681	5,508 5,736 5,823 5,567 22,634		
1991: I II III	6,007 6,743 6,873	218 85 179	6,225 6,828 7,052	1,490 1,314 1,244	145 159 157	7,860 8,301 8,453	685 686 711	5,383 5,694 6,012		

^{1/} Classes estimated.

Cattle Prices Decline from Record Highs

Fed cattle prices fell sharply from the record highs of over \$80 per cwt last winter through early spring to the mid-\$60's this summer. Prices have strengthened since summer lows, but record slaughter weights and sharply larger supplies of competing meats are holding down price increases. Fed cattle prices may average only about \$72 this fall, but are expected to strengthen through winter. Prices are likely to remain in the mid-\$70's for much of 1992 as record supplies of competing meats and a sluggish economy hold down price increases.

Feeder cattle prices will remain under the pressure of lower fed cattle price expectations and poor feedlot profits through at least mid-winter. Yearling feeder cattle prices at Oklahoma City this fall may average about \$5 per cwt below last fall's \$93.79, and the lowest quarterly average since early 1990. Prices in 1992 are likely to remain in the upper \$80's to low \$90's for much of the year and about \$5 below this year's average of slightly above \$93.

Prices on Utility cows in 1992 are very uncertain, following 2 years averaging above \$50. Utility cow prices broke out of a late summer-early fall narrow trading pattern near \$50 in early November. Prices in Sioux Falls dropped to the low \$40's, as larger numbers of older cows were likely culled following unusually light culling through this calf-weaning period. Although beef cow slaughter likely remains low, seasonally increased slaughter will have to compete against record supplies of processing meats and unexpectedly large supplies of beef in cold storage. Cow slaughter is expected to rise only modestly in 1992, with prices \$1 to \$2 below this year's average of slightly above \$50.

Retail Choice Beef Prices Decline, Spreads Narrow

Retail Choice beef prices averaged \$2.80 per pound during September, declining over 5 cents from a month earlier. The farm-retail price spread narrowed to \$1.33 per pound in September, off 7 cents from August. The third-quarter spread averaged \$1.35 a pound, nearly 20 cents above last summer's average. Farm-retail spreads are likely to narrow as retail prices stabilize and then rise modestly and live steer prices continue to rise.

Retail Choice beef prices are expected to average near \$2.85 this fall as large supplies of competing meats at even lower relative prices result in fewer beef specials, particularly with further advances expected for fed cattle prices. The ample supplies of competing meats will blunt the price rise potential for Choice beef in 1992. Prices are likely to average near to slightly below this year's \$2.90 average, but the large swings from high to low prices this year will likely be sharply reduced. Per capita beef consumption will remain near to slightly below this year's expected 67.6-pound average and approach the low for this cattle cycle. However, given an expected 10-percent decline in pork prices next year

and continued lower poultry prices, beef prices may be difficult to maintain even with low supplies if the economy weakens further in 1992.

Calf Dressed Weights Continue Heavy

Commercial calf carcass weights appear to have stabilized in recent months but are still sharply above a year earlier. The third-quarter average calf carcass weight was 199 pounds, 8 percent above a year earlier but 9 percent below this year's

Table 35--Federally inspected calf slaughter by class

Year	Bob veal	F	ed	Other	· Total
real	150 lb & below	Formula 150-400 lb	Nonformula 150-400 lb	Over	Total
		Thousa	nd head		
1987 1988 1989 1990:	1,207.8 1,065.9 898.2	1,002.7 1,003.3 933.8	171.4 155.9 112.4	297.5 185.1 192.8	2,679.4 2,410.2 2,137.2
Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Year	73.4 58.0 66.4 42.8 38.9 41.4 53.7 56.6 51.5 57.0 59.5 57.4 656.6	77.5 66.1 79.6 67.3 81.7 69.1 69.0 68.8 60.4 77.3 71.3 63.2 851.3	12.1 8.1 8.2 7.3 9.9 6.5 9.0 7.2 9.3 7.6 5.9	11.8 12.9 11.0 9.4 8.9 11.2 9.5 12.5 13.2 14.1 10.7 10.2	174.8 145.1 165.1 127.7 136.8 131.6 138.7 146.9 132.3 157.7 149.1 136.7
1991: Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May June July Aug. Sept.	53.6 40.3 38.5 27.3 21.8 24.9 37.2 40.7 43.1	80.3 67.5 69.6 67.5 69.3 56.2 59.1 58.9 59.6	6.9 4.6 4.5 5.1 3.8 5.2 5.8	9.9 9.0 7.5 6.7 6.4 5.7 6.1 6.4 7.2	150.7 121.4 120.1 106.0 102.6 90.5 107.6 111.9

Figure 12
Federally Inspected Cattle

Carcass weights, pounds per head 730 720 710 1991 700 690 1990 680 1989 670 660 Sep Jul Nov Mar May

Table 36--Commercial calf slaughter and production

Quarters	Slaughter	Dressed weight	Production
	Thousand head	Pounds	Million Pounds
1989: I II III IV Year	583 488 548 553 2,172	156 174 153 152 158	91 85 84 84 344
1990: I II III IV Year	497 406 430 456 1,789	159 177 184 189 177	, 79 72 79 86 316
1991: I II III	402 306 341	204 216 199	82 66 68

second quarter. For the year, commercial calf carcass weights could average 205 pounds, 16 percent above last year. The principal factor prompting the shift toward heavier calf dressed weight is the declining proportion of lighter bob calves in the slaughter mix and an increased proportion of heavier, high valued formula fed veal calves. The slaughter mix of calves in 1992 is expected to begin to stabilize, resulting in little change in calf dressed weights in 1992.

Commercial calf slaughter for the summer quarter was record low at 341,000 head, 20 percent below last year. Calf slaughter for 1991 is forecast to be near 1.4 million head, off 22 percent from last year. Next year, a smaller decline is expected for commercial calf slaughter, likely to be only 8 to 10 percent. High stocker and feeder cattle prices are expected to continue bidding dairy-type calves out of veal slaughter into feedlot programs. Also, because most veal calves are dairy-type, the supply of veal calves declines as the dairy cow herd declines.

Veal Production and Consumption Decline

Veal is becoming more of a specialty meat with the lowest per capita consumption of any of the red meats. Per capita veal consumption is expected to decline to around 1.1 pounds in 1992, compared with 1.3 pounds this year. Commercial veal production in 1991 is expected to decline about 8 percent to around 280 million pounds, carcass weight, as the sharp decline in calf slaughter is partly offset by sharply higher dressed weights. Veal production is expected to decline further in 1992, perhaps 8 to 10 percent lower, barring a major shock that would reduce the demand for dairy-type cattle in feedlot programs.

Despite the declining supply, wholesale veal prices at New York for Choice 150- to 250-pound carcasses slipped below a year earlier during October.

U.S. Cattle and Beef Trade

U.S. Beef and Veal Imports Remain Up

U.S. imports of beef and veal rose 7 percent from a year earlier during January-August 1991. Tight supplies and relatively high prices of domestic cow beef, along with favorable exchange rates, have helped fuel the increased imports. U.S. prices for 90-percent lean beef have moderated from the high levels of this spring, and are likely to drop further next year with increased supplies. Imports in 1992 are forecast to be down slightly.

The 1991 trigger level for meat under the Meat Import Law is 1,318.5 million pounds, product weight, down 3.5 percent from 1990. As of November 9, 1991, imports under the Law as reported by the U.S. Customs Service were 1,187.4 million pounds, 6 percent above the same period in 1990. Only fresh, chilled, or frozen beef, veal, mutton, and goat meat are included under the Meat Import Law. Excluded is processed meat in airtight containers which comes mainly from Argentina and Brazil, and all meat from Canada. About 80 percent of U.S. beef imports this year are subject to the Law and about 90 percent of those come from Australia and New Zealand.

Because Australia and New Zealand have agreed to limit sales to the United States, the import quota has not been triggered. Any meat shipped to the United States from Australia or New Zealand that is above the agreed-to amounts will be stored in bonded warehouses and released after January 1, 1992. Australia has agreed to limit exports to 743 million pounds and New Zealand to 445 million. Because of this agreement, imports for 1991 are forecast to be down about 2 percent.

Imports from Australia during January-August 1991 were up 5 percent. Australian exports were larger this spring than earlier expected because of a relatively short period of dry weather in Queensland that increased beef production and exports. Queensland is again experiencing drought, which could mean increased slaughter. Australia is also a major supplier to the Japanese market. There are indications that because of heavy supplies of frozen beef in Japan, some Australian manufacturing beef that would have gone to the Japanese market has been diverted to the United States.

U.S. imports from New Zealand are also up as beef production is forecast to increase 12 percent in 1991 after a period of herd rebuilding. About 75 percent of New Zealand's production is exported, and about 75 percent of exports go to the United States. New Zealand is also experiencing drought, which could affect slaughter and herd growth. Imports from countries that ship fresh, chilled, or frozen beef (mainly Central American) and are not limited by voluntary restraint agreements are up 10 percent.

Because of the presence of foot and mouth disease, Argentina and Brazil may only ship cooked meat in airtight containers to the United States. This type of meat is not included under the Meat Import Law. Imports from Argentina are up 33 percent, mainly to offset the loss of the Brazilian market when Brazil lost its residue certification on June 1, 1990. As of August 14, 1991, the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service recertified Brazil's residue certification program which allows exports to resume. Under U.S. law, countries without an acceptable residue testing program may not export to the United States.

U.S. Beef Exports Rise to South Korea, Mexico, and Canada

U.S. beef and veal exports are forecast to increase 14 percent in 1991 and 8 percent in 1992. Most of the increase will be to South Korea, Mexico, and Canada. While Japan remains the United States' principal market, other markets are demanding an increasing share. The mix of exports is also changing, with chilled products outpacing frozen products.

Exports to Japan are down but are forecast to increase next year. In April 1991, the Japanese liberalized their beef market and instituted a 70-percent tariff. That tariff will drop to 60 percent in April 1992. With liberalization, the Livestock Industry Promotion Corporation (LIPC) also relinquished control of Japan's beef imports. The LIPC had preferred to import frozen beef because it could be easily stored, and released to the market or held back, when necessary, to stabilize prices.

The Japanese prefer fresh meat and the LIPC has had difficulty moving the frozen stocks that were built up prior to liberalization. This has depressed the frozen import market.

Table 37--U.S. beef and veal trade, carcass weight 1/

0	Appual	January-August						
or area	Annual 1990	1990	1991	Percent change				
	Mil	llion pound	ls	Percent				
Imports: Australia New Zealand Argentina Canada Central America Mexico Brazil Other	1,084.4 577.9 209.2 222.4 186.4 3.5 43.8 28.4 2,355.9	683.3 443.1 138.0 139.5 109.2 1.8 43.8 17.4	720.8 501.5 183.0 135.9 116.3 0.9 0.1 25.9 1,684.5	5.5 13.2 32.5 -2.6 6.4 -48.0 -99.7 48.8 6.9				
Exports: Japan Canada Mexico Korea, S. Caribbean Other	574.4 191.1 72.9 97.7 24.6 45.3 1,006.0	384.2 123.8 44.6 57.2 16.6 28.5 654.9	353.8 167.1 106.4 86.9 15.7 34.4 764.4	-7.9 35.0 138.6 52.1 -5.6 20.8 16.7				

^{1/} Data may not add to exact totals due to rounding. Percent changes calculated from unrounded data.

In Mexico, increased consumer purchasing power has fueled demand for imported beef. Exports to Mexico are about one-third frozen and both fresh and frozen exports are increasing rapidly. Exports to Canada are mainly fresh or chilled. U.S. exports have increased substantially with increased demand for high-quality, portion control/boxed beef for the foodservice industry.

South Korean imports have increased rapidly. Korea did not allow beef imports until 1987. With the negotiation of the U.S.-Korean Beef Agreement of April 1990, Korea agreed to eliminate beef restrictions before July 1997. Korea has a minimum beef import quota for 1991 of 86,000 metric tons (190 million pounds), carcass weight, that was increased to 160,000 tons to help control inflation. The quota was also increased in 1990 for the same reason. The minimum quota for 1992 is set at 94,000 metric tons, but is expected to be raised so that U.S. exports to Korea are forecast to increase slightly next year. Australia is Korea's main supplier of beef.

Live Cattle Imports Up from Canada

U.S. live cattle imports were down 2 percent from a year earlier in January-August 1991 because of a decline in imports from Mexico. Imports from Mexico are forecast to increase this fall and increase again next year. Imports from Mexico traditionally decline during the summer, then pick up during the fall. Producers in the northern Mexican states, from where most of the cattle are exported, began holding back cattle to increase their herds 2 years ago. Mexico's export tariff for cattle was reduced to 1.67 percent (minimum \$5 per head) in September 1991 from 5 percent (minimum \$15 per head).

Reports by USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service show that for January 1-October 5, 1991, U.S. imports of cattle from Mexico were 704,263 head, down by 10 percent.

Imports from Canada were up 5 percent from a year earlier in January-August 1991. Although cattle above 700 pounds

Table 38--U.S. live cattle trade 1/

0	Ammiral	January-August							
Country or area	Annual 1990	1990	1991	Percent change					
		Thousand head		Percent					
Imports: Mexico Canada Other Total	1,261.0 873.8 0.0 2,135.0	745.5 571.7 0.0 1,317.2	688.4 599.7 0.0 1,288.1	-7.7 4.9 -80.0 -2.2					
Exports: Mexico Canada Other Total	64.2 34.6 21.1 119.9	43.5 17.1 17.8 78.5	126.6 56.6 6.6 189.9	190.9 230.9 -63.0 142.0					

^{1/} May not add due to rounding. Percent change calculated from unrounded data.

Table 39--Imports of feeder cattle and calves and hogs from Canada and Mexico

Year	Feeder cat	tle and calves	Hogs
	Canada	Mexico	Canada
		Number	
1990		407 400	440.000
Jan.	53,709	126,109	119,009
Feb.	68,728	117,738	91,116 68,791
Mar.	74,048 87,155	122,648	90,417
Apr. May	87,155 90,785	125,692 117,799	83,125
June	79,724	71,359	61,262
July	46,664	46,070	61,829
Aug.	57,177	18,022	54,927
Sept.	87,116	39,222	52,186
Oct.	100,289	68,756	74,108
Nov.	61,852	206,038	64,515
Dec.	47,221	201,654	64,992
Total 1991	854,468	1,261,107	886,277
Jan.	63,580	144,335	82,847
Feb.	86,527	103,582	77,190
Mar.	99,789	99,218	86,742
Apr.	109,510	119,900	97,909
May	89,308	118,381	99,206
June	52,648	57,598	101,308
July	46,124	32,156	101,433
Aug.	43,792	13,182	91,960

per head were down by 4 percent from last year, this category remains the largest with about 70 percent of the total. Most of the gain from Canada has been in the categories of cattle under 200 pounds and cattle between 440-700 pounds.

Sheep and Lambs

Recently, the Senate Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry held hearings in Denver, Colo., and Washington D.C., about conditions within the sheep industry. From peak prices in 1987, lamb prices have declined sharply and have squeezed many producers' margins. Lower live lamb prices can be largely attributed to lower wholesale lamb prices, depressed pelt values, and reduced returns from sheep byproducts. One dominant theme presented at the testimony was that the sheep industry needs more price information at the wholesale and retail levels and associated price spreads. Additional hearings are scheduled in coming months to explore the situation within the sheep industry.

Third-quarter lamb and mutton production was 84 million pounds, carcass weight, unchanged from a year ago. Com-

mercial sheep slaughter during the same period was about 1 percent greater than last year with lighter carcass weights. The sheep slaughter mix had expanded numbers of mature sheep relative to last year, up 3 percent. Also, exports of sheep to Mexico continue to be record large, over 80 percent above last year. Low lamb prices, increased mature sheep slaughter, and record large exports of sheep, indicate that the sheep flock is likely being liquidated.

Lamb Prices Remain Depressed

Choice lamb prices at San Angelo, Tex., during October averaged \$51.20 per cwt, compared with \$51.75 a year ago and \$59.63 2 years ago. Choice lamb prices this year are expected to average about \$53.50 per cwt, compared with \$55.54 last year. Next year, lamb prices are expected to average \$49 to \$55, with the midpoint about \$1 below the 1991 average.

Table 40--Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter and production 1/

Quarters	Lambs	Sheep	Dr p Total we		Production
	т	housand hea	d 	lb	Mil lb
1988: I II III IV Year	1,292 1,178 1,256 1,265 4,991	62 82 80 79 303	1,354 1,260 1,336 1,344 5,294	63 63 60 62 62	85 80 80 84 329
1989: I II III IV Year	1,308 1,198 1,265 1,351 5,122	65 96 100 83 344	1,373 1,294 1,365 1,434 5,466	64 62 59 64 62	88 80 81 92 341
1990: I II III IV Year	1,356 1,315 1,281 1,369 5,321	68 91 89 85 333	1,424 1,406 1,370 1,454 5,654	65 63 61 63 63	93 89 84 92 358
1991: I II III	1,465 1,238 1,294	69 86 92	1,534 1,324 1,386	65 63 61	99 84 84

^{1/} Classes estimated.

U.S. Broiler Exports to the USSR: Temporary Phenomena or Emerging Trend?

Lee A. Christensen and Larry A. Witucki 1/

Abstract: Higher levels of broiler exports are realized while domestic production increases. Exports to traditional markets continue strong. The Soviet market became a factor beginning in late 1989. At that time there was some moderate price response in the United States. The Soviets look to outside sources for food, and U.S. broiler parts are one of the most inexpensive animal protein foods available. Exports help move large supplies of U.S. dark meat parts, and large cash purchases by the USSR in 1990 led to record U.S. exports. The continued pressure to buy in 1991 and beyond is linked to the USSR's need for food, but its imports may be restrained by lack of credit. The Soviets use export credits for grain purchases, some of which go to their poultry sector.

Keywords: Broilers, poultry, trade, USSR, U.S. exports, credit guarantees

Introduction

The continued annual growth of 4-6 percent in U.S. broiler production is increasing industry efforts to develop export markets. A record 1.14 billion pounds of broiler meat were exported in 1990, and about 1.15 billion pounds are expected in 1991. Between 1985 and 1990, U.S. broiler exports grew from around 3 percent to slightly over 6 percent of production.

The increase is due to a number of factors: (1) low-priced dark chicken meat parts in the United States, (2) changes in the dollar exchange rate in the mid-1980's, (3) increased shipments of broiler parts to the Pacific Rim and neighboring countries in 1988-89, and (4) the emergence of a large Soviet market in 1990.

The 1990 export record primarily reflected large purchases of lower-priced broiler parts by the USSR, which made up 26 percent of total U.S. exports.

The unit value of 1990 exports to the USSR was 32 cents per pound, while the U.S. wholesale price for whole broilers was 55 cents. Recent sales to the

Soviet Union began in late 1989 and rose sharply in 1990. However, they fell in 1991 due to a shortage of hard currency credits and barter items. While there is considerable long-term potential for U.S. exports to the Soviets, questions remain as to the breadth and duration of this market.

The future Soviet poultry market will be influenced by both internal and external forces. Previously, the USSR exercised considerable control over import sources. Currently, a major external determinant is the level of credits and/or other foreign assistance, and how the USSR allocates these credits and other foreign exchange among competing needs. Domes-

tic policies and the degree of success in expanding its own poultry industry will also affect the import decisions of the USSR or its republics.

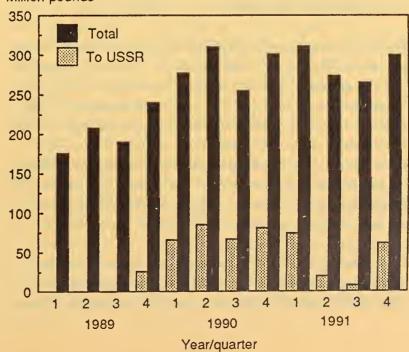
Background on Soviet Purchases

USSR purchases of U.S. poultry began anew in the fall of 1989, with 26 million pounds. This was the first Soviet purchase of U.S. poultry meat since 1980 when a sale was canceled due to the U.S. embargo following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The last previously delivered sale was in 1976. Sales to the Soviets jumped to 300 million pounds in 1990, and were almost entirely responsible for the U.S. record exports. Soviet broiler purchases made through 1990, including some imported in early 1991, involved cash transactions or short term commercial credit (figure A-1).

Sales to the Soviets slowed in 1991, primarily because they became contingent upon credit guarantees by the U.S. Gov-

Figure A-1
U.S. Broiler Exports

Million pounds



^{1/} Agricultural economists, Commodity Economics Division, Economic Reasearch Service, USDA.

ernment. U.S. exports to the USSR are forecast to be about 165 million pounds this year, provided that the entire October sale gets shipped on schedule. USSR purchases from the United States have been nearly all relatively low-priced leg quarters, and this will likely continue. (A leg quarter is defined by the USDA as consisting of a thigh, drumstick, and a portion of the back attached. It can also include attached abdominal fat and up to two ribs.)

Overview of the Soviet Poultry Meat Industry

The poultry sector has been one of the more productive segments of Soviet agriculture and the government generally has been supportive. However, the poultry industry is dependent on the Soviet mixed-feed industry, which is notorious for poor quality, particularly the lack of high-quality oilseed meal protein. It also received less priority in the late 1980's and into the 1990's as the government, in rationing hard currency, gave non-agricultural imports higher priority. Production in 1990 stagnated because of the poor feed rations. It was estimated that because of the low quality rations, daily weight gains in 1990 were only around 55-60 percent of those in the United States.

The United States became the predominant supplier of imported poultry meat in 1990. The USSR's total imports rose to a record 600 million pounds, nearly 8 percent of consumption, enabling per capita use to rise slightly to an estimated 12.3 kilograms. However, chronic payment problems resulting from a worsening economy and hard currency debt caused by non-agricultural imports have limited poultry imports in 1991 and will likely do so again in 1992.

Total poultry meat production in the Soviet Union for 1990, and estimates for 1991 and 1992 are 3.3, 3.25, and 3.2 million metric tons, respectively. Broilers constitute over 50 percent, with the production figures for the same years being 1.8, 1.75, and 1.7 million tons. From 1976 to 1989, broiler meat production grew from 290,000 tons to 1.82 million tons, but slowed in 1988 and 1989, and has been declining since, mainly because of feed shortages, poor feed quality, and reorganization problems in the Soviet economy.

Poultry production is scattered throughout the Soviet Union, but nearly 60 percent is concentrated in the Russian republic. The organization of Soviet poultry production is changing. Traditionally, the majority of Soviet poultry meat entering public markets has been produced in the public sector under the administration of Ptitseprom, an agency of the central government. Ptitseprom has supervised all aspects of Soviet poultry production from research and breeding to production, processing, and distribution. However, the republics are moving to assume greater control of poultry operations.

Consumers in the USSR have traditionally preferred beef and pork over poultry. Prior to 1991, poultry meat was priced 40-75 percent higher at retail than beef or pork, but in April 1991, the price for beef was set at 7-8 rubles per kilogram (3.4 rubles per pound). For pork and poultry, it was set at 5-6 rubles (2.5 rubles per pound). But inflation is high and when meat becomes available in stores at artificially low prices, long lines soon form and all the meat is quickly sold. Much of the people's income is spent on food, and obtaining food, especially meat, is a day-to-day concern. A major goal of the Soviet government is to make stable supplies of poultry meat available in the cities as one way of improving living standards.

Poultry meat makes up a growing, but much smaller part of total meat consumption in the Soviet Union than in the United States. Soviet poultry meat consumption in both 1989 and 1990 was 12.2 kilograms (26.9 pounds) per capita, about 17 percent of total meat consumption, carcass weight basis. In 1980 it was 14.7 percent. In comparison, U.S. consumption of broilers in 1990 was around 70 pounds per capita, nearly 28 percent of total meat consumption. Per capita consumption of poultry meat was estimated steady in 1990 in the USSR as imports compensated for flat production. Soviet forecasts call for consumption to increase to 24 kilograms (53 pounds) by the year 2000, perhaps an overly optimistic goal given the current state of flux in the country.

Update on Soviet Imports

Soviet poultry imports into the country are handled by the Foreign Trade Organization, Prodintorg, which handles a number of food commodities. It is separate from, and appears to have less influence, than the grains importing organization, Exportkhleb.

The USSR traditionally has imported poultry meat from East European countries, especially Hungary. Total imports in 1988 were 179,000 tons, of which 142,000 tons came from Hungary. But Hungarian production and exports have declined since 1988. Furthermore, the old Eastern bloc trading arrangements were disrupted as countries were free to replace bilateral trade arrangements denominated in soft currencies, with hard currency transactions at world market prices. In 1990, Hungarian exports to the USSR were estimated at only 60,000 tons.

Total poultry meat imports increased sharply in 1990, with the United States the main supplier, followed by Hungary, Brazil, and a minor amount from the European Community. U.S. exports were almost exclusively leg quarters while previous USSR imports were whole birds. U.S. leg quarters were shipped primarily to Moscow, St. Petersburg, and some other large cities.

Traditionally, the Soviet Union has been a market for whole birds. However, Soviet processing plants have been importing equipment to produce parts and deboned chicken. Chicken leg quarters and other parts from domestic sources

are becoming more available. Backs and other less profitable parts are used for soup meat.

Shortages of hard-currency financing in the USSR, and its allocation, have sharply increased uncertainties regarding imports by the USSR, and these allocation decisions are greatly limiting imports of poultry by the Soviet Union.

U.S. Export Guarantees

The USDA began offering export credit guarantees to the USSR in January 1991 to facilitate continued large sales. As of early November, credits for poultry meat totaled \$48.5 million, plus nearly \$5 million for ocean freight. These guarantees have enabled the USSR to purchase approximately 120 million pounds of U.S. poultry meats this year, nearly all leg quarters. Only a fraction of the total sales to the USSR in 1991, about \$10 million, were made without USDA credit guarantees.

In January 1991, the USDA announced a \$1-billion credit line for the USSR under the GSM-102 export credit guarantee program. Of this, \$25 million was allocated for the sale of frozen or chilled poultry meat. This financed sales of about 51.8 million pounds of leg quarters and about 5.5 million pounds of chicken franks. An additional \$600-million credit guarantee for agricultural products was granted by USDA in June 1991. Of this, \$8.5 million, plus another \$1.8 million for freight coverage, was allocated to poultry, and was used to buy about 22 million pounds of leg quarters, which were shipped in October.

In late August another \$315-million credit was made available, an advance from fiscal 1992 funding, but none of this was allocated to poultry. In late September, the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) agreed to guarantee 100 percent of the principal on commodity sales made to the USSR after September 24. Banks had been very slow to offer loans under the old terms. The CCC also raised the guaranteed loan interest rate above the previous 4.5-percent limit.

In late September, Congress received a telex from Prodintorg indicating an urgent Soviet need for up to 220.5 million pounds of poultry products. A group of 12 Senators from States with significant poultry production then asked the Secretary of Agriculture to help meet Soviet needs for more U.S. poultry.

On October 1, another \$585 million for guarantees to the USSR became available, all under the new terms. On October 4, \$15 million was allocated for poultry meat, plus \$3 million to cover freight. In a few days, a poultry sale was registered, covering about 40 million pounds of chicken leg quarters. The USSR is eager to take delivery soon, particularly as winter approaches, and the objective is to complete shipments by the end of the year.

Impacts of USSR Sales on U.S. Broiler Prices

In general, sales to the Soviet Union are being absorbed by the market without significant long-run price changes in the United States. There have been short-term movements when large sales are announced, as would be the case with large sales to any country. Generally, these news-driven movements subside, and prices adjust to reflect the underlying market fundamentals. Perhaps the most sustained impact is that large export sales put a floor under the entire market, and especially help move large quantities of dark meat parts, which are in chronic oversupply in the United States.

The short-run impacts on the U.S. broiler market of news of Soviet purchases have generally been positive. After the October 1989 sale to the Soviet Union, wholesale prices increased 5 cents and 2 cents per pound for leg quarters and whole legs, respectively, over late September. The sale provided strength to a market that had been weakening since late summer. The average Northeast wholesale price (January-September) was around 45 cents per pound for whole legs and 31 cents for leg quarters. Prices on the last market day of September were nearly 34 and 23 cents per pound, respectively. However, by the end of October prices dropped back to trend levels.

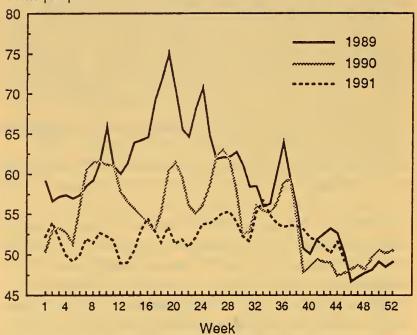
Prices were again impacted in late September 1991, when export credit guarantees were sought through Congress, to purchase 220.5 million pounds of broiler meat from the United States. Delivery was requested for a 6-month period, perhaps starting in November. The press reported broiler industry statements that these sales could add 1-2 cents per pound to the 12-city wholesale broiler prices over the next 6 months.

The proposed sale did help the broiler market, and prices rose in the short run by 1-2 cents. However, in the larger scheme of things, the news of possible exports is only one factor influencing broiler prices. Furthermore, a 1- to 2-cent-per-pound move in broiler prices is not unusual. Prices typically fluctuate widely during the year, although this year the 12-city wholesale prices have been much less volatile than usual, and generally lower than last year (figure A-2). Average wholesale broiler prices during the first three quarters of 1991 were down about 8 percent from the same period in 1990, 52.5 cents per pound compared with 56.8 cents per pound. Comparable leg quarter prices also dropped about 8 percent, from 32.8 to 30.2 cents per pound.

Proposed exports of 220.5 million pounds to the USSR over the next 6 months would represent just over 2 percent of estimated U.S. production during that period. This could be supplied easily by the industry. The exports would provide a welcome market for increased production, particularly for leg quarters. Because of American consumers' preference for white meat, dark meat supplies are generally abundant and can put downward pressure on other chicken parts prices.

Figure A-2
Wholesale Broiler Prices

Cents per pound



Outlook for 1992 and Beyond

12-city composite.

The long-run prospect for continued large imports by the USSR of broilers from the United States is uncertain. It will be influenced by Soviet decisions regarding purchases in the international poultry markets versus developing their own poultry industry, as well as the extension of credit guarantees and other assistance from the United States and other suppliers. If the United States provides food assistance this winter, broiler meat could play a role in that context, as it has in export credit guarantee sales.

An ongoing, but so far frustrated, objective of the Soviet Union is larger increases in domestic poultry production. Both poultry feeds and breeds must be improved before productivity can be raised significantly. While it appears that the USSR will require poultry imports for some years into the future, its financing capability remains in question, and may act as a deterrent.

After being the leading market in 1990, the USSR was surpassed by Japan and Hong Kong in 1991. Nevertheless, the USSR remains a very important and challenging market for the U.S. broiler industry. U.S. broiler meat was not imported by the old USSR and Eastern Bloc for over 10 years. USSR imports came mainly from Hungary and other East European countries. Under the new order, the market opened up to major poultry meat exporters, and the United States gained the largest share of USSR imports in 1990. The United States apparently has increased its share in 1991, as total Soviet imports have fallen an estimated 50 percent.

How this was accomplished should provide some guidelines to assess the future U.S. role in providing broiler meat to this

large market. Only the United States and China exceed the USSR in total poultry meat consumption.

The U.S. capacity to produce large, reliable supplies of lowpriced chicken meat parts and ship them rapidly to ports in the USSR is a major advantage. The conditions that allowed the U.S. broiler industry to make large sales of leg quarters without government assistance in 1990 are still basically in place, except for the USSR's ability to finance imports without assistance.

Other major suppliers do not appear to have established a strong position in the new USSR market. Although Brazil and the EC have made some shipments, they may not be willing to offer credit assistance. Hungary remains an important, but since 1989, smaller supplier. The East European countries could again become significant U.S. competitors, particularly if proposed arrangements for assistance are implemented. One of these proposals provides for developed countries to finance export sales of farm commodities from Eastern Europe to the USSR. It is not clear how much of these commodities would be broiler meats. Poultry exports from Eastern Europe have trended down since 1988.

The United States may have succeeded in partially differentiating its broiler products in the USSR. Chicken produced in the USSR has been referred to as skinny. U.S. leg quarters, sometimes referred to as "Bush legs" in the USSR, certainly are not skinny, and are gaining recognition by Soviet citizens as a desirable form of chicken meat. As such, U.S. broiler meat may play a small but important role in promoting a feeling of well-being among Soviet citizens.

The USSR plans to further develop its own broiler industry, and reduce dependence on imports. The potential for increased grain production for example, exists in Eastern Europe if not in the USSR. But plans are likely far from being achieved, and, over the next few years there is still likely to be a broiler gap to be filled by imports. The United States is in a good position to continue supplying a large share of this important market, if financing can be arranged.

Sources:

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Table 41--Farrow-to-finish hog production costs and returns, 1,600 head annual sales, North Central Region 1/

	1990	1991									
Item	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
0					Do	ollars p	er cwt				
Cash receipts: 2/ Market hogs (94.25 lb) Cull sows (5.75 lb) Total Cash expenses: Feed	45.70 2.32 48.02	47.97 2.39 50.36	49.75 2.50 52.25	48.89 2.65 51.54	48.31 2.68 50.99	51.56 2.64 54.20	52.31 2.56 54.87	52.29 2.38 54.67	49.05 2.28 51. 33	44.19 2.21 46.40	42.52 2.11 44.63
Corn (345.6 lb) Soybean meal (70.6 lb) Mixing concentrates (14.3 lb) Total feed Other	14.92 7.92 2.86 25.70	14.17 7.92 2.86 24.95	13.93 7.82 2.86 24.61	14.08 7.82 2.87 24.77	14.32 7.82 2.84 24.98	14.48 7.71 2.84 25.03	14.42 7.71 2.84 24.97	14.41 7.71 2.84 24.96	14.41 7.85 2.87 25.13	14.28 7.85 2.87 25.00	14.04 7.85 2.87 24.76
Veterinary and medicine 3/ Fuel, lube, and electricity Mach. and building repairs Hired labor 4/ Miscellaneous Total variable expenses General farm overhead Taxes and insurance Interest Total fixed expenses Total cash expenses 5/	0.74 1.46 2.42 1.32 0.63 32.27 1.72 0.65 3.82 6.19 38.46	0.74 1.45 2.42 1.32 0.63 31.51 1.80 0.65 4.01 6.46 37.97	0.74 1.45 2.42 1.32 0.63 31.17 1.87 0.63 4.16 6.66 37.83	0.74 1.46 2.42 1.34 0.63 31.36 1.85 0.64 4.10 6.59 37.95	0.74 1.46 2.42 1.34 0.64 31.58 1.84 0.63 4.06 6.53 38.11	0.74 1.46 2.42 1.34 0.64 31.63 1.96 0.63 4.31 6.90 38.53	0.74 1.46 2.42 1.34 0.64 31.57 1.98 0.63 4.37 6.98 38.55	0.74 1.46 2.44 1.31 0.64 31.55 1.97 0.63 4.35 6.95 38.50	0.74 1.47 2.44 1.38 0.62 31.78 1.80 0.65 4.08 6.53 38.31	0.74 1.47 2.44 1.39 0.64 31.68 1.67 0.69 3.69 6.05 37.73	0.74 1.47 2.44 1.36 0.64 31.41 1.62 0.69 3.55 5.86 37.27
Receipts less cash expenses Capital replacement Receipts less cash expenses and replacement	9.56 5.87 3.69	12.39 5.88 6.51	14.42 5.90 8.52	13.59 5.87 7.72	12.88 5.86 7.02	15.67 5.89 9.78	16.32 5.88 10.44	16.17 5.87 10.30	13.02 5.91 7.11	8.67 5.93 2.74	7.36 5.93
and reptacement	3.04	0.51	0.52	1.12	7.02	9.78	10.44	10.30	/ •		1.43

^{1/}The feed rations and expense items do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual hog operations. For individual use, adjust expenses and prices for management, production level, and locality of operation. 2/ Based on 94.25 lb of barrows and gilts liveweight and 5.75 lb of sows per cwt sold. 3/ Includes costs of feed medication, that is usually included as part of the feed cost. 4/ Based on .204 hours per cwt of liveweight hog marketed. 5/ Does not include a charge for family or operator labor (.732 hours)

Table 42--Corn Belt hog feeding: Selected costs at current rates 1/

Purchased during 1990-91	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Marketed during 1991	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Expenses: (\$/head) 40-50 lb feeder pig Corn (11 bu) Protein supplement (130 lb) Total feed Labor & management (1.3 hr) Vet medicine 2/ Interest on purchase (4 mo) Power, equip, fuel,	49.63	48.50	57.47	63.63	60.97	52.98	42.78	40.98	36.53	38.22	33.75
	24.31	24.75	25.30	26.40	26.95	26.51	25.74	25.30	26.29	25.63	24.97
	19.50	18.85	18.85	18.85	19.05	19.05	19.05	19.31	19.31	19.31	20.15
	43.81	43.60	44.15	45.25	46.00	45.56	44.79	44.61	45.60	44.94	45.12
	13.26	14.03	14.03	14.03	14.16	14.16	14.16	13.66	13.66	13.66	14.04
	3.05	3.06	3.06	3.06	3.08	3.08	3.08	3.07	3.07	3.07	3.08
	1.96	1.90	2.25	2.50	2.31	2.01	1.62	1.53	1.36	1.42	1.23
shelter deprec. 2/ Death loss (4% of purchase) Transportation (100 miles) Marketing expenses Misc. & indirect costs 2/ Total	7.42	7.46	7.46	7.46	7.52	7.52	7.52	7.48	7.48	7.48	7.50
	1.99	1.94	2.30	2.55	2.44	2.12	1.71	1.64	1.46	1.53	1.35
	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14
	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.76	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.77
	123.50	122.87	133.10	140.86	138.87	129.82	118.05	115.36	111.55	112.71	108.46
Selling price required to cover: (\$/cwt) Feed and feeder costs (220 lb) All costs (220 lb) Feed cost per	42.47 56.14	41.86 55.85	46.19 60.50	49.49 64.03	48.62 63.12	44.79 59.01	39.80 53.66	38.90 52.44	37.33 50.70	37.80 51.23	35.85 49.30
100-lb gain (180 lb) Barrows and gilts, (7 mkts) Net margin	24.34 51.01 -5.13	24.22 54.47 -1.38	24.53 54.55 -5.95	25.14 55.22 -8.81	25.56 50.78 -12.34	25.31 46.53 -12.48	24.88 43.16 -10.50	24.78	25.33	24.97	25.07
Prices: 40-lb feeder pig (So. Missouri) \$/head Corn \$/bu 3/ Protein supp. 38-42% %/cwt 4/ Labor & management \$/hr 5/ Interest rate, annual Transportation rate	49.63	48.50	57.47	63.63	60.97	52.98	42.78	40.98	36.53	38.22	33.75
	2.21	2.25	2.30	2.40	2.45	2.41	2.34	2.30	2.39	2.33	2.27
	15.00	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.65	14.65	14.65	14.85	14.85	14.85	15.50
	10.20	10.79	10.79	10.79	10.89	10.89	10.89	10.51	10.51	10.51	10.80
	11.87	11.77	11.77	11.77	11.37	11.37	11.37	11.17	11.17	11.17	10.90
(\$/cwt 100 miles) 6/ Marketing Expenses (\$/cwt) 7/ Index of prices paid by farmers (1910-14=100)	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22
	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14
	1289	1295	1295	1295	1305	1305	1305	1299	1299	1299	1302

^{1/} Although a majority of operations in the Corn Belt are from farrow-to-finish, relative fattening expenses will be similar. Costs represent only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed rations and expense items do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders. For individual use, adjust expenses and prices for management, production level, and locality of operation. 2/ Adjusted monthly by the index of prices paid by farmers for commodities, services, interest, taxes, and wage rates. 3/ Average price received by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. 4/ Average prices paid by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. 5/ Assumes an owner-operator receiving twice the farm labor rate. 6/ Converted from cents/mile for a 44,000-pound haul. 7/ Yardage plus commission fees at a Midwest terminal market.

Table 43--Great Plains custom cattle feeding: Selected costs at current rates 1/

Table 43Great Plains	custom c	attle re	eaing:	Selected	costs a	t curren	t rates	1/				
Purchased During 1990-9 Marketed During 1991-92	1 Nov. May	Dec. June	Jan. July	Feb. Aug.	Mar. Sept.	Apr. Oct.	May Nov.	June Dec.	July Jan.	Aug. Feb.	Sept. Mar.	Oct. Apr.
Expenses: (\$/head) 600 lb. feeder steer Transportation to	539.28	552.00	554.28	575.28	567.00	571.50	551.04	559.56	560.10	543.72	525.00	523.50
feedlot (300 miles) Commission Feed	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00	3.96 3.00
Milo (1500 lb) 2/ Corn (1500 lb) 2/ Cotton seed meal	66.45 71.55	70.05 73.20	69.75 72.75	70.95 74.85	73.05 77.40	72.60 79.20	72.15 81.15	69.45 78.90	69.45 80.10	70.35 79.80	70.20 78.45	70.65 77.70
(400 lb)	53.60	53.60	51.60	51.60	51.60	48.80	48.80	48.80	46.40	46.40	46.40	45.60
Alfalfa hay (800 lb) 3/ Total feed cost Feed handling and	55.60 247.20	56.40 253.25	61.60 255.70	55.60 253.00	58.00 260.05	52.80 253.40	52.80 254.90	52.40 249.55	53.60 249.55	57.20 253.75	52.40 247.45	51.60 245.55
management charge Vet medicine	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00	21.00 3.00
Interest on feeder and 1/2 feed	39.77	40.72	40.93	40.35	38.34	38.40	35.62	35.93	35.96	35.21	33.08	32.31
Death loss (1.5% of purchase) Marketing 4/	8.09 f.o.b.	8.28 f.o.b.	8.31 f.o.b.	8.63 f.o.b.	8.50 f.o.b.	8.57 f.o.b.	8.27 f.o.b.	8.39 f.o.b.	8.40 f.o.b.	8.16 f.o.b.	7.88 f.o.b.	7.85 f.o.b.
Total	865.30	885.21	890.18	908.22	904.85	902.83	880.79	884.39	884.97	871.79	844.37	840.18
Selling price required to cover: 5/ \$/cwt. Feed and feeder cost (1056 lb) All costs Selling price 6/ Net margin	74.48 81.94 78.22 -3.72	76.25 83.83 74.29 -9.54	76.70 84.30 72.19 -12.11	78.44 86.01 67.38 -18.63	78.32 85.69 68.87 -16.82	78.12 85.50 71.28 -14.22	76.32 83.41	76.62 83.75	76.67 83.80	75.52 82.56	73.15 79.96	72.83 79.56
Cost per 100 lb. gain: Variable cost less interest \$/cwt. Feed costs \$/cwt.	55.86 49.44	57.11 50.65	57.60 51.14	57.13 50.60	58.51 52.01	57.19 50.68	57.43 50.98	56.39 49.91	56.39 49.91	57.18 50.75	55.87 49.49	55.48 49.11
Prices: (\$/cwt) Choice feeder steer _600-700 lb. Amarillo	89.88	92.00	92.38	95.88	94.50	95.25	91.84	93.26	93.35	90.62	87.50	87.25
Transportation rate \$/cwt/100 miles 7/ Commission fee \$/cwt.	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50	0.22 0.50
Feed, Prices, Texas Milo \$/cwt Corn \$/cwt. Cottonseed Meal	4.28 4.62	4.52 4.73	4.50 4.70	4.58 4.84	4.72 5.01	4.69 5.13	4.66 5.26	4.48 5.11	4.48 5.19	4.54 5.17	4.53 5.08	4.56 5.03
(41%) \$/cwt. 8/ Alfalfa hay \$/ton Feed handling and	13.40 109.00	13.40 111.00	12.90 124.00	12.90 109.00	12.90 115.00	12.20 102.00	12.20 102.00	12.20 101.00	11.60 104.00	11.60 113.00	11.60 101.00	11.40 99.00
management \$/ton Interest, annual	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
rate 9/	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.50	11.00	11.00	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.20	10.00

^{1/} Represents only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed ration and expense items do not necessarily coincide with experience of individual feedlots. For individual use, adjust expenses and prices for management, production, and locality of operation. Steers are assumed to gain 500 lb in 180 days at 2.8 lb per day with feed conversion of 8.4 lb per pound gain. 2/ Texas Panhandle elevator price plus \$.15/cwt. handling and transportation to feedlots. 3/ Average price received by farmers plus \$30/ton handling and transportation to feedlots. 4/ Most cattle sold f.o.b. at the feedlot with 4-percent shrink. 5/ Sale weight 1,056 lb (1,100 lb less 4-percent shrink). 6/ Choice slaughter steers, 1000-1100 lb, Texas-New Mexico direct. 7/ Converted from cents per mile for a 44,000-lb haul. 8/ Average prices paid by farmers. 9/ Prime rate plus 2 points.

Table 44--Federally inspected hog slaughter

Week		Hogs		Bar	rows and	gilts		Sows		Воз	ars and s	tags
nding 1/	1989	1990	1991	1989	1990	1991	1989	1990	1991	1989	1990	1991
						Thousa	nds					
anuary: 5	1 / 10	1 777	1 7/4	1 77/	1 255	1 280	69	68	57	17	14	10
12	1,419 1,719	1,337 1,763	1,346 1,814	1,334 1,626	1,255 1,663	1,280 1,723	80	82	57 75	13 15	18	1
19 26	1,679 1,647	1,674 1,684	1,710 1,606	1,590 1,556	1,582 1,601	1,624 1,528	76 72	75 68	70 64	16 15	17 15	1
oruary: 2	1,631	1,658	1,566	1,543	1,574	1,486	76	68	65	12	16	1
9 16 23	1,631 1,656 1,678	1,656 1,681	1,566 1,628 1,638	1,543 1,582 1,585 1,582	1,574 1,578 1,606 1,552	1,544 1,559 1,543	58 75	63 6 0	67 63	13 15	15 15 13	1
23 rch:	1,665	1,624	1,618				69	59	61	14		1
2	1,621 1,716	1,713 1,614	1,646 1,717	1,532 1,637	1,628 1,538 1,627 1,549 1,513	1,567 1,638	72 66	68 61	64 63	15 14	16 15	1
16 23	1,703 1,601	1,614 1,707 1,631	1,686 1,583 1,650	1,637 1,616 1,517 1,562	1,627	1,612 1,505	70 69	64 66	60 63	16 15	16 16	1
30 ril:	1,648	1,631 1,591	1,650	1,562	1,513	1,574	70	62	61	16	16	1
6	1,761	1,661 1,642	1,615	1,674 1,681	1,579	1,538 1,639	72 72	66 64	61 62	16 15	16 16	1
20 27	1,761 1,780 1,813 1,764	1,594	1,615 1,717 1,715 1,663	1,725	1,579 1,562 1,516 1,513	1,634 1,585	72 72 72 77	62 65	65 63	16 17	16 16	1
/ :									62	17	17	1
11	1,732 1,654	1,579 1,586	1,624 1,610	1,637 1,565	1,502 1,501	1,547 1,530	77 76	66 68	66 62	17	17	
18 25	1,632 1,618	1,528 1,522	1,576 1,506	1,494 1,516	1,436 1,433	1,500 1,426	73 84	74 72	66 66	16 18	18 17	
ne: 1	1,343	1,236	1,313	1,260	1,159	1,241	69	62	59	14	14	1
8 15 22	1,343 1,589 1,589 1,533	1,460 1,452 1,472	1,313 1,524 1,576 1,497	1,474 1,483 1,434	1,159 1,364 1,358	1,438 1,494 1,413	87 88	78 77	71 67	16 18	18 17	
29	1,533 1,500	1,472 1,402	1,497 1,465	1,434 1,400	1,377 1,311	1,413 1,369	83 83	78 76	70 79	16 17	17 16	1
y: 6	1,244 1,557	1,191 1,461	1,174 1,565	1,157 1,446	1,121 1,366	1,106	64	58	57	13	12	1
13 20	1,557 1,518 1,501	1,461 1,430	1,565 1,504	1,446 1,432	1,366 1,332	1.467	96 95	78 81	81 78	17 16	18 17	1
27	1,501	1,430 1,361	1,504 1,476	1,432	1,332 1,262	1,412 1,380	92	83	80	16	16	1
gust: 3 10	1,543	1,463 1,471	1,465	1,428	1,363	1,371	99 89	84 80	78 73	16 16	17 16	
17 24	1,612 1,615 1,610 1,713	1,607 1,606 1,641	1,502 1,625 1,614 1,731	1,507 1,503 1,506 1,601	1,376 1,510 1,505 1,548	1,415 1,534 1,525 1,638	89 89	81 78	73 76 75 78	17 16	16 16	4
31	1,713	1,641	1,731	1,601	1,548	1,638	95	77	78	16	16	
ptember: 7	1,545	1,440	1,502	1,446 1,777	1,364	1,423	80	63	66	13	12	
14 21 28	1,545 1,888 1,853 1,785	1,440 1,747 1,722 1,676	1,502 1,836 1,752 1,778	1,770 1,750 1,688	1,646 1,626 1,584	1,664 1,687	96 86	84 79 76	74 74 76	16 16	16 17	1
tober:							82			15	16	
5 12 19	1,810 1,810 1,797 1,739	1,695 1,628	1,795 1,767 1,837 1,835	1,711 1,716	1,604 1,540	1,708 1,683	85 80	76 74	74 72	14 13	16 14	1
19 26	1,797 1,739	1,665 1,624	1,837 1,835	1,703 1,644	1,582 1,540	1,755 1,747	80 83	70 69	68 73	15 12	13 14	
26 vember: 2			1,792	1,713	1,576	1,702	83	72	76	16	14	- 1
9 16	1,791	1,662 1,759 1,768	.,.,.	1.692	1 668	.,	84 85	76		16 14	15 14	
23 30	1,812 1,791 1,901 1,564 1,908	1,480 1,838		1,802 1,486 1,802	1,679 1,416 1,742		66 89	75 54 79		12 16	10 17	
cember: 7												
14	1,832 1,716 1,521	1,814 1,825 1,762		1,729 1,621 1,436 1,372	1,722 1,732		88 81	79 78		15 14	14 16	
21 28	1,521	1,762		1,436	1,674 1,202		74 61	73 43		13 10	15 7	

^{1/} Corresponding dates to 1991: 1989, January 7; 1990, January 6.

Table 45--Federally inspected cattle slaughter

											Cows				
Week ending 1/	4000	Cattle	4004	4000	Steers	4004	4000	Total	4004	4000	Dairy	4004		iry/to	
	1989	1990	1991	1989 	1990	1991 Thous	1989 sands	1990	1991	1989	1990	1991	1989	1990 Percer	1991
January:															
5 12 19 26	543 627 654 641	548 622 598 637	494 658 650 617	256 290 313 310	263 282 281 318	245 318 326 310	119 131 129 123	120 146 132 119	96 132 123 116	64 68 65 61	57 69 61 59	50 68 63 60	54 52 50 50	48 47 46 49	52 51 51 52
February: 2 9 16 23 March:	625 605 641 628	639 622 601 594	598 606 612 589	300 300 316 309	310 304 300 300	290 295 302 294	114 104 119 108	123 114 102 104	114 114 117 106	60 57 64 62	60 59 53 56	59 60 62 58	53 55 54 57	49 52 52 54	52 53 53 55
March: 2 9 16 23 30 April:	639 600 588 584 587	592 613 620 609 608	605 618 602 571 512	316 312 288 286 286	295 312 315 306 307	303 314 299 279 252	114 104 119 114 111	109 103 104 110 108	115 111 110 108 104	62 58 61 56 57	57 55 57 56 55	63 60 61 58 55	54 56 51 49 51	52 54 55 51 51	55 54 55 54 53
13 20 27	609 646 663 652	592 595 626 626	564 598 628 646	300 335 332 332	302 302 326 326	287 303 339 349	118 117 122 122	105 104 102 109	99 105 103 104	57 56 56 54	51 51 49 51	52 54 52 51	48 48 46 44	49 49 48 47	53 52 50 49
May: 4 11 18 25	666 670 675 673	617 684 681 667	611 626 639 637	326 339 344 342	322 352 354 347	321 331 335 339	128 118 115 115	102 105 112 109	101 101 97 98	56 50 50 50	49 48 49 47	49 49 48 48	44 42 43 43	48 46 44 43	49 48 49 49
June: 1 8 15 22 29	589 663 680 658 671	592 665 674 662 664	563 640 645 659 651	301 328 339 331 329	311 339 349 341 340	287 332 345 356 347	99 114 113 109 112	91 104 101 103 108	86 101 96 93 100	42 49 49 48 50	38 44 41 45 44	42 50 47 48 50	42 43 43 44 45	42 42 41 44 41	49 50 49 51 50
July: 6 13 20 27 August:	564 691 672 638	555 671 673 647	546 637 642 615	288 335 326 312	291 338 334 334	296 333 343 324	79 122 115 106	77 113 106 98	69 98 95 92	37 56 55 52	33 48 45 46	38 52 48 49	47 46 48 49	43 42 43 47	56 53 51 53
3 10 17 24 31	644 673 652 630 646	617 646 646 634 636	608 619 658 657 645	326 332 315 304 316	321 332 326 319 311	331 336 357 342 328	104 107 112 114 111	96 98 104 108 109	91 91 87 91 101	53 54 53 56 57	44 47 48 50 53	49 51 49 50 54	51 50 47 49 51	46 48 46 46 49	54 56 57 55 53
September: 7 14 21 28 October:	562 657 666 670	572 662 643 656	570 637 656 654	277 327 316 324	287 323 301 324	298 329 334 330	97 118 117 120	93 113 112 112	84 100 99 103	49 58 56 56	44 54 51 51	46 55 57 57	51 49 48 47	47 48 46 46	55 55 57 55
12 19	660 663 648 652	624 634 627 621	636 621 636 621	310 309 304 297	285 306 298 298	313 317 328 299	126 128 132 142	114 118 126 131	104 106 110 116	57 57 57 60	52 53 55 56	55 58 56 58	45 45 43 42	45 45 43 42	53 54 51 50
November: 2 9 16 23 30	643 630 635 533 660	644 600 610 540 602	584	292 292 292 262 301	299 282 285 276 296	283	139 139 143 111 146	134 130 127 101 129	119	61 59 60 47 62	56 58 54 43 57	61	44 42 42 42 42	42 45 42 43 45	52
December: 7 14 21 28	644 635 625 542	597 638 635 426		299 304 298 274	294 319 316 219		149 133 124 99	130 128 120 74		63 58 53 42	57 59 57 33		42 44 43 42	44 46 47 44	

^{1/} Corresponding dates to 1991: 1989, January 7; 1990, January 6.

Table 46--Pork: Retail, wholesale, and farm values, spreads, and farmers' share

			0	D	Mod	Fai	rm retail spr	ead	
Year	Retail price 1/	Wholesale value 2/	Gross farm value 3/	By-product allow- ance 4/	Net farm value 5/	Total	Wholesale- retail	Farm- wholesale	Farmers' share 6/
				Cents p	er pound				Percent
1986 1987 1988 1989 I III IV 1990 I III III	178.4 188.4 183.4 182.8 180.0 178.6 183.9 188.9 212.6 196.2 208.4 222.6 223.1	110.9 113.0 101.0 99.2 92.9 94.6 100.8 108.4 118.2 107.1 122.5 122.8 120.5	87.4 87.9 73.9 75.0 69.4 71.5 78.2 80.8 92.6 84.5 100.1 98.3 87.6	4.9 5.2 4.5 4.3 4.4 4.8 4.7 5.0 6.8 5.0	82.4 82.7 69.4 70.4 65.1 67.1 73.4 76.1 87.2 79.4 94.2 92.5 82.5	96.0 105.7 114.0 112.4 115.0 111.4 110.6 112.8 125.4 116.8 114.2 130.1	67.5 75.4 82.4 83.7 87.1 84.0 83.1 80.4 94.3 89.1 85.9 99.8 102.6	28.5 30.3 31.6 28.8 27.9 27.4 27.5 32.3 31.1 27.7 28.4 30.3 38.0	46 43 37 38 36 37 39 40 41 40 45 41 37
1991: January February March I April May June II July August September III October	216.1 215.5 213.9 215.2 211.7 213.3 214.6 213.2 217.7 214.2 211.9 214.6 207.7	109.7 110.1 110.8 110.2 109.7 115.5 116.0 113.7 115.7 111.5 107.1 111.4	86.5 88.3 87.7 87.5 86.4 92.4 92.7 90.5 94.0 85.9 79.0 86.3 73.7	5.1 5.2 5.0 5.1 5.0 5.0 5.0 4.7 4.3 4.7	81.4 83.1 82.7 82.4 81.4 87.4 87.7 85.5 89.0 81.2 74.7 81.6	134.7 132.4 131.2 132.8 130.3 125.9 126.9 127.7 128.7 133.0 137.2 133.0	106.4 105.4 103.1 105.0 102.0 97.8 98.6 99.5 102.0 102.7 104.8 103.2	28.3 27.0 28.1 27.8 28.3 28.1 28.3 28.2 26.7 30.3 32.4 29.8 35.2	37 38 38 38 38 41 40 40 40 37 35 38 33

Table 47--Beef, Choice Yield Grade 3: Retail, wholesale, and farm values, spreads, and farmers' share 1/

			Gross	By-product	Net	Fa	rm retail-spr	ead	
Year	Retail price 2/	Wholesale value 3/	farm value 4/	allow- ance 5/	farm value 6/	Total	Wholesale- retail	Farm wholesale	Farmers' share 7/
				Cents p	er pound				Percent
1986 1987 1988 1989 I III IV 1990 I III IV 1991:	226.8 238.4 250.3 265.7 260.7 267.0 268.0 266.9 281.0 272.6 281.2 280.4 289.9	146.5 160.0 169.4 176.8 177.3 180.4 172.5 176.8 189.6 186.9 189.6 185.4	140.0 157.6 169.4 177.6 179.6 179.5 171.3 180.1 188.9 189.5 188.0 184.7	15.0 18.9 21.1 20.1 19.7 19.3 20.0 21.1 20.5 21.5 20.8 20.0 19.9	125.0 138.7 148.2 157.6 159.9 160.2 151.2 158.9 168.3 168.0 167.3	101.8 99.7 102.1 108.1 100.8 106.8 116.8 108.0 112.7 104.6 113.9 115.7	80.2 78.4 80.9 88.9 83.4 86.5 95.5 90.1 91.4 85.7 91.6 95.0 93.5	21.5 21.3 21.2 19.2 17.5 20.3 21.3 17.9 21.2 18.9 22.3 20.7 22.9	55 58 59 59 61 60 56 59 61 59 58 59
January February March I April May June II July August Septembe III October	295.4 294.3 297.1 296.1 292.4 295.2 288.4 285.4	192.6 189.6 193.4 191.9 194.1 190.9 186.1 190.4 178.8 172.2 170.8 173.9	190.7 190.9 194.7 192.1 194.3 188.3 178.8 187.1 173.4 161.4 163.3 166.0 166.9	20.5 19.8 19.2 19.8 19.0 18.3 17.9 18.4 17.2 16.3 16.5 16.7	170.2 171.1 175.5 172.3 175.3 170.0 160.9 168.7 156.2 145.1 146.8 149.4	124.7 121.4 119.9 122.0 121.8 126.1 131.5 126.5 132.2 140.3 133.3 135.3	102.3 102.9 102.0 102.4 103.0 105.2 106.3 104.8 109.6 113.2 109.3 110.7	22.4 18.5 17.9 19.6 18.8 20.9 25.2 21.6 22.6 27.1 24.0 24.6 24.7	57 58 59 58 59 57 57 55 57 54 50 52 52

^{1/} Estimated weighted-average of BLS prices of retail cuts from pork carcass.
2/ Value of wholesale quantity equivalent to 1 lb of retail cuts. A wholesale-carcass equivalent of 1.06 is used.
3/ Market values to producer for 1.7 lb of live animal, equivalent to 1 lb of retail cuts.
4/ Portion of gross farm value attributable to edible and inedible by-products.
5/ Gross farm value minus farm by-product allowance.
6/ Percent net farm value is of retail price.

^{1/} Series revised August 1990.
2/ Estimated weighted-average of BLS prices of retail cuts from Choice Yield Grade 3 carcass.
3/ Value of wholesale quantity equivalent to 1 lb of retail cuts. A wholesale equivalent of 1.142 is used.
4/ Market value to producer for 2.4 lb of live animal, equivalent to 1 lb of retail cuts.
5/ Portion of gross farm value attributed to edible and inedible by-products.
6/ Gross farm value minus farm by-product allowance.
7/ Percent net farm value is of retail price.

Table 48--Average Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) retail price per pound of specified meat cuts

Item and year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Арг	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	0ct	Nov	Dec
Chaire Book						Dollars	s					
Choice Beef: Ground Chuck 1989	1 01	1 00	1 05	4 02	1 00	1 00	4 04	4 00	4 00	4 07	4 07	4 00
1989 1990 1991	1.81 1.91 2.00	1.80 1.95 1.99	1.85 1.94 1.97	1.82 1.97 1.98	1.82 1.97 1.99	1.80 1.97 1.99	1.81 1.95 1.96	1.82 1.97 1.97	1.82 1.99 1.95	1.84 1.97 1.94	1.87 2.00	1.88 2.02
Ground beef 1989	1.40			1.42	1.44	1.44		1.45	1.46	1.45	1.49	1.50
1990 1991	1.56	1.37 1.57 1.63	1.43 1.57 1.61	1.59	1.58	1.59	1.44 1.58 1.59	1.58	1.59	1.58	1.62	1.63
Chuck roast, bone in 1989	1.81	1.91	1.87	1.89	1.90	1.86	1.86	1.78	1.88	1.89	1.92	2.00
1990 1991	2.03 2.16	2.12 2.16	2.05	2.10	2.12 2.10	2.07	2.07	2.04	2.07	2.09	2.15	2.15
Chuck roast, boneless	2.30	2.27	2.35	2.30 2.47	2.28	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.27	2.33	2.34	2.43
1990 1991	2.49	2.50	2.44	2.47	2.47	2.43	2.42 2.52	2.49	2.47	2.51 2.46	2.57	2.60
Round roast, boneless 1989 1990	2.75 2.91	2.75	2.76 2.93	2.77	2.78 2.95	2.73	2.73 2.92	2.71	2.78 2.89	2.78 2.96	2.77	2.78
1991 Rib roast, bone in	3.08	3.04	3.08	3.11	3.10	2.92 3.01	3.02	3.00	2.94	2.94	2.93	3.02
1989 1990	4.11 4.29	4.04 4.29	4.06 4.37	4.16 4.33	4.24	4.06 4.54	4.34 4.62	4.29 4.57	4.19 4.65	4.17 4.66	4.19 4.56	4.21 4.54
1991 Round steak, boneless	4.71	4.68	4.73	4.74	4.78	4.78	4.75	4.75	4.61	4.61		
1989 1990	3.07 3.30 3.39	3.09 3.31	3.12 3.27	3.14 3.29	3.10 3.32 3.49	3.06 3.35 3.45	3.11 3.29	3.12 3.31 3.35	3.10 3.28	3.12 3.33	3.18 3.39	3.17 3.42
1991 Sirloin steak, bone in		3.39	3.47	3.48			3.41		3.36	3.33	7 57	7 //
1989 1990	3.39 3.58	3.40 3.55	3.61 3.52	3.57 3.80	3.70 3.61	3.67 3.79	3.70 3.73	3.66 3.73	3.62 3.68	3.55 3.72	3.57 3.73	3.46 3.65
1991 Sirloin steak, boneless 1989	3.69 3.85	3. 61 3. 95	3.69	3.73 3.89	3. 86 4.01	3. 86	3.77 4.15	3.69 3.99	3.72 3.95	3.73 3.76	3.81	3.79
1990 1991	3.82 4.29	3.85 4.23	3.93 3.93 4.34	4.07 4.37	4.19 4.45	4.19 4.41	4.23	4.22 4.38	4.30 4.23	4.25 4.19	4.24	4.24
T-bone steak, bone in 1989	4.95	4.91	5.05	5.04	5.14	5.16	5.22	5.10	5.15	5.08	4.99	5.04
1990 1991	5.11 5.38	4.56 5.44	4.71 5.46	4.78 5.45	4.96 5.51	5.01 5.60	4.99 5.40	4.91 5.42	5.01 5.25	4.96 5.24	5.41	5.45
Pork:												
Bacon, sliced 1989	1.80	1.80	1.79	1.75	1.68	1.69	1.71	1.72	1.72	1.77	1.82	1.96
1990 1991	1.97 2.26	2.01 2.30	1.99 2. 3 2	1.98 2.27	2.04 2.31	2.15 2.31	2.21 2.31	2.24	2.18 2.16	2.21 2.12	2.24	2.28
Pork chops, center cut 1989 1990	2.78 3.02	2.75 2.96	2.80 3.01	2.80 3.16	2.76 3.20	2.82 3.44	2.91 3.47	2.92 3.51	2.95 3.36	2.89 3.37	2.97 3.37	2.85 3.32
1991 Ham, rump or shank half	3.25	3.26	3.27	3.27	3.28	3.41	3.42	3.33	3.29	3.18	3.31	3.32
1989 1990	1.58 1.70	1.57 1.70	1.57 1.82	1.58 1.72	1.56 1.78	1.58 1.89	1.61 1.91	1.63	1.62	1.63 1.93	1.66 1.94	1.66 1.94
1991 Sirloin roast, bone in 1/	1.73	1.67	1.67	1.64	1.64	1.62	1.71	1.69	1.72	1.70		
1989 1990	1.89 2.02	1.88	1.88	1.88 2.06	1.86 2.12	1.89 2.25	1.92 2.28	1.94 2.31	1.93	1.94 2. 3 1	1.97 2.32	1.98 2.31
1991 Shoulder picnic, bone in	2.31	2.28	2.29	2.25	2.27	2.30	2.31	2.29	2.27	2.24	4.40	4 47
1989 1990 1991	1.12 1.14 1.40	1.06	1.06	1.08	1.07	1.08	1.09	1.10	1.10 1.35	1.10	1.12 1.39	1.17
Sausage, fresh, loose 1989	1.92	1.39	1.33	1.31	1.29	1.29	1.27	1.29	2.02	1.23	2.11	2 12
1990 1991	2.12	1.94 2.20 2.45	2.16	1.93 2.21 2. 3 7	2.29	2.41	2.49	2.50	2.02 2.49 2.47	2.52	2.39	2.12 2.42
Miscellaneous cuts:	2.42	2.45	2.35	2.37	2.45	2.37	2.47	2.50	2.47	2.40		
Ham, canned 3 or 5 lb 1989	2.75	2.71	2.63	2.70	2.64	2.68	2.66	2.65	2.70	2.68	2.61	2.62
1990 1991	2.72 3.15	2.77 3.17	2.75	2.68 3.18	2.64 2.77 3.23	2.85 3.25	2.84 3.28	NA 3.26	NA 3.16	NA 3.14	NA	NA
Frankfurters, all meat 1989	2.08	2.07	2.07	2.03	2.05	2.02	2.01	2.09	2.09	2.04	2.10	2.11
1990 1991 Polegna	2.16 2.41	2.22 2. 3 8	2.23	2.19 2.39	2.18 2.40	2.31 2.40	2.31 2.26	2.28	2.37	2.37	2.44	2.40
Bologna 1989 1990	2.22	2.24	2.23	2.24	2.23	2.24	2.24	2.27	2.34	2.38	2.37	2.40
1991	2.63	2.58	2.45	2.61	2.47	2.57	2.59	2.67	2.58	2.58	2.01	

NA = Not available
1/ ERS estimate from BLS index and historical data.

Table 49--Red meat supply and utilization, carcass and retail weight 1/

	Produc	tion	Begin-					Total	Per c	apita
Year	Commer- cial	Farm	ning stocks	Im- ports	Total supply	Ex- ports	Ending stocks	disap- pearance	Carcass weight	Retail weight
Doofe				Millior	pounds				Pou	nds
Beef: 1990 I	5,508	38	335	598	6,479	232	403	5,844	23.5	16.6
II III IV	5,508 5,736 5,823 5,567	16 16 39	403 340 321	573 597 588	6,479 6,728 6,776 6,515	232 237 270 267	340 321 397	6,151 6,185 5,851	24.6 24.7 23.3	17.4 17.4 16.4
Year 1991	22,634	109	335	2,356	25,434	1,006	397	24,031	96.1	67.8
I II III 2/ Year 2/	5,383 5,694 6,012 22,864	38 16 16 109	397 366 327 397	570 682 630 2,315	6,388 6,758 6,985 25,685	281 289 300 1,150	366 327 368 340	5,741 6,142 6,317 24,195	22.8 24.4 25.0 95.8	16.1 17.2 17.6 67.6
1992 2/ Year	23,175	109	3 40	2,280	25,904	1,245	325	24,334	95.7	67.4
Pork: 1990	7 005	10	717	242		40	750	/ 029	16.2	12.7
I II III IV Year	3,905 3,647 3,641 4,107 15,300	19 8 8 19 54	313 352 358 290 313	212 231 236 219 898	4,449 4,238 4,243 4,635 16,565	69 59 47 64 239	352 358 290 296 296	4,028 3,821 3,905 4,275 16,030	16.2 15.3 15.6 17.0 64.1	12.6 11.9 12.1 13.2 49.8
1991 I II III 2/ Year 2/	3,901 3,792 3,821 15,914	19 8 8 54	296 363 388 296	188 209 220 842	4,404 4,372 4,437 17,106	64 68 60 257	363 388 363 425	3,977 3,916 4,014 16,424	15.8 15.5 15.9 65.1	12.3 12.1 12.3 50.5
1992 2/ Year	17,150	54	425	865	18,494	270	375	17,849	70.2	54.4
Veal: 1990										
I II III IV Year	79 72 79 86 316	4 2 2 3 11	4 4 5 6 4		87 78 86 95 331		4 5 6 6	83 73 80 89 325	0.3 0.3 0.3 0.4 1.3	0.3 0.2 0.3 0.3
1991 I II III 2/ Year 2/	82 66 68 291	4 2 2 11	6 6 6	:::	92 74 76 308		6 6 6 4	86 68 71 304	0.3 0.3 0.3 1.2	0.3 0.2 0.2 1.0
1992 2/ Year	269	11	4		284		4	280	1.1	0.9
Lamb and mutton: 1990		·								
I II III IV Year	93 89 84 92 358	2 1 1 1 5	8 8 10 9 8	12 12 14 20 59	115 110 109 122 430	1 1 1 3	8 10 9 8 8	106 100 99 113 419	0.4 0.4 0.4 0.5 1.7	0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4
1991 I II III 2/ Year 2/	99 84 84 356	2 1 1 5	8 8 8 8	15 17 13 60	124 110 106 429	1 1 3	8 8 6 7	115 102 99 419	0.5 0.4 0.4 1.7	0.4 0.4 0.3 1.5
1992 2/ Year	363	5	7	60	435	2	9	424	1.7	1.5
Total red meat: 1990										
I II III IV Year	9,585 9,544 9,627 9,852 38,608	63 27 27 62 179	660 767 713 626 660	822 816 847 827 3,313	11,130 11,154 11,214 11,368 42,760	302 296 318 332 1,248	767 713 626 707 707	10,061 10,145 10,270 10,329 40,805	40.4 40.6 41.0 41.1 163.2	29.8 29.9 30.1 30.3 120.1
1991 I II III 2/ Year 2/	9,465 9,636 9,985 39,425	63 27 27 179	707 743 729 707	773 908 863 3,217	11,008 11,314 11,604 43,528	346 357 361 1,410	743 729 742 776	9,919 10,228 10,501 41,342	39.4 40.6 41.6 163.8	29.0 29.8 30.5 120.5
1992 2/ Year	40,957	179	776	3,205	45,117	1,517	713	42,887	168.6	124.2

^{--- =} Not applicable - beef and veal trade combined.

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Forecast.

Year	Feder- ally Inspected	Other	Total	Begin- ning stocks	Total supply	Ex- ports	Ending stocks	Total disap- pearance	Per capit retai weigh
				Millio	n pounds				Pound
oung chicken: 1990		25	/ F40	7.0	/ 550	0.77	20	/ 254	47.4
I II III	4,495 4,660 4,627	25 27 26	4,519 4,687 4,654	38 29 30	4,558 4,716 4,684	277 310 255	29 30 24	4,251 4,376 4,404	17.1 17.5 17.6
IV Year	4,772 18,554	28 106	4,800 18,660	24 38	4,824 18,698	301 1,143	26 26	4,497 17,529	17.9 70.1
1991 I	4.692	27	4,719	26	4,746	311	31	4,404	17.5
II III 2/	5,004 5,091	31 33	5,035 5,124	31 42 26	5,066 5,166 19,903	274 265	42 41	4,750 4,860	18.8 19.2
Year 2/ 1992 2/ Year	19,757 20,540	120 118	19,877 20,658	40	20,698	1,150 1,180	40 3 5	18,713 19,483	74. ²
ther chicken:	20,000		20,000		20,070	.,,		.,,	
1990 I	133	17	151	189	340	8	216	116	0.5
II III IV	145 129 113	19 17 15	164 146 128	216 2 3 6 202	380 381 330	7 5 5 25	236 202 224	137 175 100	0.6 0.
Year 1991	520	67	588	189	777	25	224	528	2.
I	124 131	16 17	140 148	224 233	3 64 3 81	6 7	2 33 245	125 1 3 0	0.9
III 2/ Year 2/	126 496	16 64	142 560	245 224	387 784	6 26	270 240	111 518	0.4 2.
1992 2/ Year	505	65	570	240	810	25	230	555	2.
otal chicken: 1990									
I	4,628 4,805 4,756	42 46	4,670 4,851	227 245	4,898 5,096	285 317	245 266	4,367 4,513	17. 18.
III IV Year	4,756 4,885 19,074	43 43 173	4,800 4,928 19,248	266 226 227	5,065 5,154 19,475	260 306 1,168	226 250 250	4,579 4,597 18,057	18. 18. 72.
1991 I	4.816	43	4.859	250	5.110	317	264	4,529	18.
II III 2/	5,135 5,217	48 49	5,183 5,266	264 287	5,447 5,553	281 271	287 311	4,880 4,971	19. 19.
Year 2/ 1992 2/ Year	20,253 21,045	184 183	20,437	250 280	20,687	1,176 1,205	280 265	19,231 20,038	76. 78.
urkey:	21,043	103	21,220	200	21,300	1,203	207	20,038	70.
1990 I	983	36	1,019	236	1,255	11	318	926	3.
III	1,102 1,223	41 47	1,143 1,270	318 481	1,461 1,751	10 14	481 624	970 1,114	3. ¹
IV Year 1991	1,253 4,561	49 173	1,302 4,734	624 2 3 6	1,926 4,970	19 54	306 306	1,600 4,610	6. 18.
I	1,021 1,160	38 44	1,058 1,205	306 366	1,365 1,571	16 20	366 503	98 <mark>3</mark> 1,047	3. ⁴ .
III 2/ Year 2/	1,243 4,679	48 178	1,291 4,857	50 3 306	1,794 5,163	24 80	655 300	1,115 4,783	4. 18.
1992 2/ Year	4,800	182	4,982	300	5,282	80	250	4,952	19.
otal poultry: 1990									
I II	5,611 5,907 5,979	78 87	5,689 5,994	463 563	6,152 6,557	297 327	563 747	5,293 5,483	21. 22.
IV	6,138	90 92	6,069 6,230	747 850	6,816 7,079	274 325	850 557	5,693 6,197	22. 24.
Year 1991 I	23,635 5,837	347 81	23,982	463 557	24,445	1,222	557 6 3 0	22,666	90.
II III 2/	6,296 6,460	93 97	5,918 6,388 6,557	630 790	6,474 7,018 7,346	33 2 302 295	790 966	5,512 5,927 6,086	23. 24.
Year 2/ 1992 2/	24,932	361	25,294	557	7,346 25,851	1,256	580	24,014	95.
Year	25,845	3 65	26,210	580	26,790	1,285	515	24,990	98.

Table 51--Total red meat and poultry supply and utilization, carcass and retail weight 1/

	Total	Begin-			•		Total	Per c	apita
Year	produc- tion	ning stocks	Im- ports	Total supply	Ex- ports	Ending stocks	disap- pearance	Carcass weight	Retail weight
			p	Million pound	s			Pou	nds
1990 I II III IV Year 1991	15,337 15,565 15,723 16,144 62,769	1,123 1,330 1,460 1,476 1,123	822 816 847 827 3,313	17,283 17,711 18,030 18,447 67,205	599 623 592 657 2,470	1,330 1,460 1,476 1,264 1,264	15,354 15,629 15,962 16,526 63,471	61.7 62.6 63.8 65.8 253.9	51.0 51.8 52.9 55.0 210.8
I II III 2/ Year 2/ 1992 2/	15,446 16,051 16,569 64,898	1,264 1,373 1,519 1,264	773 908 863 3,217	17,482 18,332 18,950 69,379	678 659 656 2,666	1,373 1,519 1,708 1,356	15,431 16,155 16,587 65,356	61.3 64.1 65.6 258.9	50.9 53.3 54.6 215.6
Year	67,346	1,356	3,205	71,907	2,802	1,228	67,877	266.8	222.4

^{1/} Totals may not add due to rounding.
2/ Forecast.

Table 52--Egg supply and utilization (population includes military) 1/

Year	Pro- duction	Beginning stocks	Breaking egg use	Imports 2/	Total supply	Exports	Hatching egg use 3/	Ending stocks	Consump ^a Total	tion Per capita
Total eggs					- Million o	dozen				Number
1989										
Year	5,597.8	15.2		25.2	5,638.2	91.7	642.9	10.5	4,893.0	237.3
1990 I	1,391.3	10.7		1.9	1,403.9	18.4	167.3	13.4	1,204.8	58.1
ıi	1,410.8	13.4		4.1	1,428.3	18.8	173.1	14.4	1,222.1	58.8
111	1,413.0	14.4		2.7	1,430.1	25.9	168.9	13.1	1,222.3	58.6
IV	1,444.8	13.1		0.4	1,458.3	37.5	166.6	11.6	1,242.5	59.4
Year 1991	5,659.9	10.7		9.1	5,679.6	100.1	675.8	11.9	4,891.7	234.8
I	1,417.5	11.6		0.3	1,429.5	34.8	174.2	11.1	1,209.3	57.7
II	1,415.9	11.1		0.4	1,427.4	38.0	181.4	11.2	1,196.9	57.0
III 4/ Year 4/	1,436.5 5,731.9	11.2 11.6		1.0 2.2	1,448.7 5,745.8	35.0 139.8	175.9 706.4	12.8 12.0	1,225.0 4,887.6	58.2 232.3
1992	5,151.7	11.0		2.2	5,145.0	137.0	700.4	12.0	4,007.0	232.3
Year 4/	5,770.0	12.0		2.4	5,784.4	137.0	740.0	12.0	4,895.4	230.9
Shell eggs 1989										
Year	5,597.8	0.3	949.0	22.9	4,672.0	52.4	642.9	0.4	3,976.3	192.9
1990										
I	1,391.3	0.4	240.6	1.4	1,152.5	12.1	167.3	0.7	972.4	46.9
II	1,410.8 1,413.0	0.7 0.7	268.0 274.8	3.8 2.5	1,147.3 1,1 <u>1</u> 9.7	12.1 13.7	173.1 168.9	0.7 0.5	961.4 936.6	46.2 44.9
iv	1,444.8	0.5	267.4	0.3	1,178.3	15.0	166.6	0.5	996.2	47.6
Year	5,659.9	0.4	1,050.7	8.0	4,617.6	53.0	675.8	0.5	3,888.3	186.7
1991 I	1,417.5	0.5	253.3	0.2	1,164.9	18.8	174.2	0.4	971.4	46.3
ıi	1,415.9	0.4	300.2	0.3	1,116.4	21.2	181.4	0.4	913.4	43.5
111 4/	1,436.5	0.4	302.1	0.7	1,135.5	19.6	175.9	0.4	939.6	44.6

^{1/} Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/ Shell eggs and approximate shell-egg equivalent of egg products. 3/ Hatching egg use for 1986-present calculated by a new method. 4/ Forecast. --- Not applicable for total egg supply and utilization.

Table 53--Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat, 1990-1991

tem	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
					D	ollars p	er cwt					
laughter Steers: Nebraska direct												
Choice, 1000-1100 lb	81.06	81.42	79.45	79.60	81.23	81.09	78.29	74.39	72.15	67.24	68.07	69.79
Choice, 1000-1100 lb Select, 1000-1100 lb	79.93 77.61	80.88 79.31	78.95 76.55	78.63 76.29	80.75 78.46	80.77 77.96	78.28 75.70	74.63 72.60	72.08 70.05	67.25 65.21	67.20 64.46	68.91 67.00
Choice, 1000-1100 lb	77.81	77.75	77.88	78.06	79.75	79.25	77.05	72.56	70.95	67.44	68.94	72.28
Colorado Choice, 1100-1300 lb Texas	80.89	80.62	79.17	79.35	81.09	80.87	78.44	74.43	72.25	66.99	68.52	70.84
Choice, 1000-1100 lb laughter heifers:	81.12	81.26	79.54	79.56	80.95	80.82	78.22	74.29	72.19	67.38	68.87	71.28
Nebraska Choice, 1000-1200 lb Omaha	81.03	81.35	79.35	79.56	81.23	80.98	78.22	74.30	72.13	67.10	68.08	69.88
Choice, 1000-1200 lb Select, 900-1000 lb	80.70 76.33	81.19 77.89	78.97 76.22	78.80 75.67	80.87 77.78	80.66 77.66	78.31 77.73	74.56 71.96	72.02 69.12	67.36 64.59	67.21 64.36	69.16 66.64
Sioux Falls Commercial Breaking Utility Boning Utility Cutter	55.50 54.00 48.75 47.00	56.41 54.91 50.35 48.41	55.81 53.70 49.41 47.77	56.88 54.58 51.49 50.33	57.31 54.50 52.06 51.02	55.60 52.77 52.13 51.03	56.65 52.55 53.40 52.05	58.75 53.03 54.19 52.69	57.47 51.30 52.41 50.67	55.47 50.83 50.08 48.83	55.95 51.35 49.77 48.67	53.95 49.65 47.83 46.68
Canner ealers: 1/	43.75 90.63	44.75 89.63	43.60 91.40	45.14 90.88	46.39 92.38	46.03 93.00	46.60 96.10	47.19 102.33	45.62 97.60	43.06 97.25	98.67	41.24 94.45
Choice, New York eeder steers: Kansas City* Medium No. 1,	90.03	09.03	91.40	90.00	92.30	93.00	90.10	102.33	97.80	91.23	90.07	74.43
400-500 lb 600-700 lb All weights	103.75 92.75	105.00 92.67	104.70 90.70	92.75	112.75 94.88	117.38 99.13	113.10 95.70	110.83 94.33	108.88 94.00			
and grades Okla. City	89.51	89.34	87.89	91.35	91.30	91.71	89.78	82.37	89.96			
Medium No. 1 400-500 lb 600-700 lb 700-800 lb Amarillo	108.96 93.56 92.42	112.33 95.67 93.19	112.25 94.21 90.13	118.44 95.53 90.31	117.58 96.38 88.88	120.38 98.52 89.71	117.80 97.06 89.66	117.99 97.30 91.81	113.10 95.81 91.15	106.46 90.06 86.74	106.32 89.74 85.52	104.63 88.60 85.69
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb Georgia Auctions	89.88	92.00	92.38	95.88	94.50	95.25	91.84	93.26	93.35	90.62	87.50	87.25
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb	82.00	86.67	86.80	92.50	92.63	91.69	87.85	88.50	86.38	80.13	80.00	78.70
Medium No. 2, 400-500 lb eeder heifers: Medium No. 1,	89.38	92.17	93.10	99.13	101.00	102.88	100.25	98.88	97.50	89.00	89.38	87.70
Kansas City* 400-500 lb 600-700 lb	90.25 86.75	91.00 87.50	93.60 85.90	99.00 88.25	101.00 88.13	103.00 90.13	102.30 88.50	102.00 86.83	100.50 86.75			
Okla. City 400-500 lb 600-700 lb laughter hogs: Barrows and gilts	97.60 86.58	98.92 88.88	97.80 87.63	101.99 88.16	102.10 88.96	105.88 89.57	102.16 87.66	104.81 89.59	99.98 88.80	94.93 84.77	93.61 83.67	90.79 83.40
Omaha No. 1 & 2, 230-240 lb All weights Sioux City 7 markets 2/	50.88 50.01 50.17 49.70	49.87 48.56 48.96 48.15	52.33 51.52 51.32 51.00	52.97 52.38 52.31 51.93	52.52 51.73 51.92 51.57	51.74 51.32 51.42 51.01	55.44 54.47 54.83 54.47	55.75 54.98 54.79 54.55	56.40 55.74 55.74 55.22	51.28 50.93 51.11 50.78	47.18 46.53 46.76 46.53	45.23 43.45 43.51 43.16
Sows: 7 markets 2/ eeder pigs:	45.64	41.73	43.44	45.82	47.93	48.02	47.05	46.00	42.72	41.11	39.56	37.15
No. 1 & 2, So. Mo., 40-50 lb (per hd.) laughter lambs:	46.22	49.63	48.50	57.47	63.63	60.97	52.98	42.78	40.98	36.53	38.22	33.75
Choice, San Angelo Choice, So. St. Paul	50.42 45.89	48.08 46.06	47.63 46.60	45.81 44.65	54.88 47.75	55.50 49.90	57.70 59.52	55.75 56.53	55.50 54.62	54.31 49.85	53.25 47.30	51.20 48.28
Ewes, Good, San Angelo So. St. Paul	33.83 17.11	34.67 19.43	31.94 22.67	30.38 19.95	34.88 19.63	35.50 20.65	29.90 15.99	33.38 16.20	34.63 20.73	31.06 22.25	29.63 19.40	28.80 18.24
eeder lambs: Choice, San Angelo Choice, So. St. Paul	57.83 49.50	59.17 49.70	50.63 50.32	49.06 47.60	59.25 47.00	58.63 47.50	54.98 60.50	49.69 52.50	51.81 51.90	53.38 42.50	52.63 42.94	51.7° 45.0°
ee footnotes at end of	table.										Cont	inued-

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Table 53--Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat, 1990-1991--Continued

Item	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
					D	ollars p	er cwt					
Farm prices: Beef cattle Calves Hogs Sheep	75.30 93.80 50.20 20.40 50.10	76.10 96.80 47.80 22.40 48.60	76.60 98.00 50.00 23.50 48.00	77.00 104.00 52.10 19.90 45.80	78.50 107.00 51.40 21.50 51.10	78.00 109.00 50.80 21.30 54.60	75.90 107.00 54.10 19.60 55.40	73.60 106.00 54.70 21.00 55.30	71.50 103.00 54.20 20.30 57.70	68.80 98.30 51.20 19.20 53.40	68.60 96.10 46.40 18.90 53.60	69.40 93.90 44.40 18.20 51.30
Lambs Meat prices: Wholesale Central U.S. markets Cow beef, Canner	30.10	40.00	40.00	43.80	31.10	34.60	33.40	JJ.30	31.10	J3.40	J3.60	J1.30
and Cutter Boxed beef cut-out Choice, 1-3	91.11	97.32	95.94	100.50	103.43	101.93	103.31	105.15	101.89	101.23	99.69	96.16
550-700 lb 700-850 lb Select, 1-3	128.32 128.41	129.48 128.73	125.04 123.92	123.24 122.96	125.45 125.02	125.96 126.01	123.76 123.99	120.61 120.55	115.82 114.95	111.54 109.46	110.61 108.36	113.04 110.48
550-700 lb 700+ lb Cutter Cows Pork loins	118.83 118.38 99.67	118.65 118.02 104.74	120.03 119.81 104.08	119.98 120.01 107.19	120.80 120.74 109.92	120.74 121.10 108.43	116.66 117.05 110.59	113.88 113.82 111.46	109.98 109.62 105.54	107.31 106.15 106.75	106.28 104.75 105.37	106.69 104.54 101.51
14-18 lb 3/	98.94	103.50	107.67	109.13	110.33	104.81	120.48	123.49	121.73	117.54	105.85	100.87
Pork bellies 12-14 lb	60.57	56.58	64.11	57.20	58.52	57.25	57.50	56.48	50.40	42.01	38.97	32.26
Hams, skinned 14-17 lb 17-20 lb Pork cut-out	108.00 97.96	86.13 77.46	73.00 71.97	83.17 77.36	81.42 73.01	75.00 70.10	80.00 73.64	77.33	85.00 79.23	85.00 76.95	85.00 77.16	87.25 81.04
value 4/ East Coast Lamb Choice and Prime	72.88	69.32	68.71	69.88	69.40	67.96	72.88	73.90	73.67	68.55	64.24	62.39
35-45 lb 55-65 lb		120.25 113.75	115.72 109.05	111.50 106.50	125.22 118.97	126.50 122.00	126.85 125.25	122.50 124.25	122.25 124.55	117.31 121.25	114.17 118.25	110.18 113.38
Retail						Cents p	er lb					
Beef Choice All fresh Pork	291.6 263.4 222.9	295.3 265.8 223.2	294.9 261.3 216.1	292.5 261.6 215.5	295.4 261.4 213.9	297.1 265.2 211.7	296.1 265.9 213.3	292.4 264.5 214.6	288.4 263.4 217.7	285.4 261.6 214.2	280.1 258.2 211.9	277.2 259.1 207.7
					In	dexes, 1	982-84=1	00				
Price indexes: (BLS) Retail meats Beef and veal Pork Other meats Poultry	133.1 131.9 137.1 131.4 130.5	133.6 133.0 136.8 131.6 129.7	133.5 132.9 136.5 131.6 131.3	132.8 132.6 135.1 131.2 132.7	133.1 132.9 135.2 131.6 131.9	132.7 133.4 133.3 131.3	133.4 134.1 134.2 131.3 132.7	133.5 133.2 136.1 131.6 131.5	133.1 132.6 136.7 130.3 132.5	132.9 132.3 135.7 131.6 132.4	131.9 131.0 134.1 131.9 131.0	131.3 130.7 132.7 131.6 131.0
Livestock-feed ratios Omaha: 5/ Steer-corn	37.3 23.2	36.5 22.0	35.3 23.0	34.3 22.8	34.0 21.8	32.8 20.8	32.7 22.9	32.0 23.6	31.3	28.5	28.8	29.9

NA=data not collected by AMS. --- no quote. 1/ Beginning Jan. 1989 New York auctions (150-250 lb). 2/ St. Louis N.S.Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, So. St. Joseph, So. St. Paul, and Indianapolis. 3/ Prior to 1984, 8-14 lb; 1984 and 1985, 14-17 lb; 1986, 14-18 lb. 4/ U.S. #2, 175 lb carcass. 5/ Bushels of No. 2 yellow corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds live weight. *Market closed.

^{1/} Commercial classes and dressed weights estimated.

^{2/} End of month, excludes beef and pork stocks in cooler.

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